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RESTORATION SECTION

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California Landmark Restored

Old Padres Found Historic Mission

San Jose Mission and its Later Restoration

By GEO. L. DONOVAN, Secretary Restoration Committee

Mission San Jose was founded on June 11, 1797, and from that date until 1809 the Mission consisted of huts and small grass roofed buildings. In 1809 the church and most of the main buildings were completed and a celebration lasting several days was held. All of the old Spanish families who had large grants of land in the surrounding country were present. They were the Vallejos, the Peraltas, the Alvarados, the Higueras, and many others.

Langsdorff, an early writer who visited the Mission in 1806, stated that "the Padres were having great difficulties in building the Mission as there were no large trees very near." But this difficulty was overcome later on when the Padres secured from Redwood Canyon near Oakland their largest timbers—they were 12x12 inches and from 20 to 30 feet long. Great numbers of these timbers were used for the roof structures of the church and the other buildings comprising the quadrangle. The timbers still remaining are in fine condition and are all hand hewed.

In 1824 the Mission reached its highest point of prosperity. The population was 1806 souls—its lands were numbered by the thousands of acres, which produced wheat and barley in enormous quantities. There were 7000 head of cattle, 900 horses and 12,000 sheep.

Mission San Jose was at this date the most important mission though fourth in size, because Padre Duran who had charge of the mission was also the parde-presidente of all the missions, and their affairs were all conducted and supervised from Mission San Jose. Up to the time of the secularization of the Missions in 1835 the manufactured products of Mission San Jose were sold in all the large cities of Europe an dthe United States. They consisted of fine toilet soaps, saddles and leather goods. Mexican seraper and blankets, while tallow and hides were the only cargoes of a line of fast sailing vessels that made regular trips from eastern ports. After the secularization the Missions went rapidly to decay. At this point in 1837 an inventory was demanded by the Mexican government of all Missions and Mission San Jose's inventory gave a total of over $155,000 when all debts were paid and this figure did not include the lands of the Mission. The Mexican authorities looted the Missions of everything of value. When we come to the period of the discovery of gold and on down to the civil war we find the Archbishop of San Francisco in a bitter legal contest with those who had actually squatted not only on the few acres around the church but on the very church itself. The Archbishop won in this suit and Mr. Champion Stivers of Niles has the pen used by President Lincoln that secured to the Mission the church, the church buildings, the cemetery, and the vineyard, in all about twenty acres—all that was left of its princely possessions.

The Missions of California were started by the Pius fund in Spain and the idea was to convert to Christianity the Indians, and educate and train them up to a point where they would require no further aid from the government, and all that the Missions possessed of lands and cattle were to be divided equally among them. The purpose of those who devoted their money to the Pius fund in old Spain was never carried out, nor could it be, as the California Indian could not be civilized. He could be converted, and he could be trained but not for many generations could he stand alone and be a self supporting people and the avarice of the Mexican government made it further impossible to carry out the wishes and hopes of the first founders. And so Junipero Serra with his dreams and his lion heart and his fellow padres and their successors have nothing but failure to show for their work. Still the effort they made and the privations they endured have placed them for all time in the glory of California's romance.

The movement to restore what is left of Mission San Jose was fathered by Hon. Jos. R. Knowland. He being president of the "Historic Land Mark League,"—and chairman of the N. S. G. W. Committee on Historic Land Marks—had been the means of doing much restoration work and in October, 1913, he called a meeting of all the N. S. G. W. and N. D .G. W. Parlors in Alameda County and being an authority on the history of Mission San Jose he aroused a fine enthusiasm and from the seventeen N. S. G. W. and the fifteen N. D. G. W. Parlors in the County a committee of ninety-six were appointed called the Alameda County Mission San Jose Restoration Committee. A theater party at the Oakland Orpheum under the direction of E. F. Garrison, now County Auditor netted the sum of $450. All of the Parlors of the County donated sums from $10 to $25. The committee was fortunate in securing the services of John Haar of Hayward as their architect. His plans were submitted to the committee and called for an expenditure of something like $8000. Mr. Knowland worked hard to raise this money and donated $1000 from the Grand Parlor Historic Landmarks fund. Niles Parlor No. 250 and Laura Loma Parlor N. D. G. W. of Niles at this time gave a street carnival to raise money for the fund, and turned in the handsome sum of $975.

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The Motive of Mission San Jose's Restoration

By REV. C. E. KENNEDY
Rector, Mission San Jose.

The history of Mission San Jose is the history of the oldest religious organization in Alameda County. From the year 1797 when Father Lasuen came from Santa Clara to establish the Mission, down to the present day, an unbroken record of activities in religious affairs is preserved in the archives of the Archdiocese of S. F.

The first thought, the burning desire of the Missionary Fathers, was not the civilizing of the Indians, not the acquisition of wealth from the fields and flocks, not the extenison of Spain's dominion along these far western shores. It was the salvation of Souls which was the motive behind the missionaries and their work.

Pioneers of civilization they were, but clearly did they declare the spirit which animated them, for the first act in the establishment of the Mission was the erection of the Mission Cross—the emblem of salvation.

Circumstances are the potent regulators of methods, and the Franciscan Padres in the devising of their system were influenced by the conditions which they found existing among the Indians.

The aborigines were of a mediocre mentality to say the best. The mere preaching of the Word of God would have produced but little good in their lives. It was necessary to instill into their minds and at the same time into the practical duties of their every day lives the principles of Christian-

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Restoration of Old Mission Is A Patriotic Duty

(By LEWIS F. BYINGTON)

Nothing should appeal more strongly to all Californians than the unique, romantic and interesting history of our state. In no way can that history be more eloquently told, or a knowledge of it more generally diffused among our people, than by preserving the structures and monuments reared by those who brought civilization to our shores and established permanent settlements in the West.

Pride in the history and traditions of a state, or a nation, is what tends to make loyal men and women and to elevate and ennoble citizenship, and those who promote movements for stimulating an interest in historical research or in the preservation of historical landmarks and data, are doing a great work for their country.

A movement was started several years ago to restore the Missions, those beautiful structures, rich with the traditions of a century past, and which tell the story of the conversion of savage tribes, of Christian charity and of hallowed romance, and link the era of the Indians in California with that of the Spanish possession of this land. When one of these landmarks is permitted to fall into ruin much that would serve to throw a flood of light upon the achievements, the artistic taste, and the influence for good, of the earliest Pioneers on this coast is lost for ever

For countless years before the Missionary Fathers, starting from San

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14)

THE OLD MISSION BEFORE RESTORATION

AT THE 1915 CELEBRATION

N. S. G. W. Promote Mission Restoration

Californians Take Active Interest In Preserving Landmark

By JOSEPH R. KNOWLAND, President Restoration Committee

The Franciscan missions are the oldest and most unique landmarks in the entire West. Our Eastern visitors were the first to recognize their great historic importance. Californians have gradually awakened to an appreciation of these picturesque ruins as evidenced by a determination to preserve the few yet remaining. It is also realized that they possess a commercial value in attracting tourists, for no one writes of California and her innumerable attractions and wonders without touching upon the missions and the part they played in the early history of this far western commonwealth.

While a majority of the twenty one missions were located in Southern California, these establishments are found as far north as Sonoma. Mission San Jose, in this county, founded in 1797, is the oldest landmark of which we boast and particularly the only one that reminds us of the days when the Spaniard, responsible for the nomenclature of most of our towns, mountains and creeks, roamed the fields hereabout. That this mission has been preserved is due to he energy and perseverence of the two orders of Native Sons and Native Daughters of the Golden West.

The adobe walls of the ancient building were disintegrating with the storms of each winter. A few more years and Mission San Jose, like so many of the other California land marks, would have entirely disappeared. There was plenty of sentiment but it takes more than sentiment alone to re-roof buildings and strengthen leaning walls. Money was needed and enthusiastic Native Sons and Native Daughters set out to raise the necessary amount.

In October 1910 the members from Alameda County of the General Admission Day Committee first took up the question of preserving the Mission. In August, 1912, the Alameda County Native Sons and Native Daughters Mission San Jose Restoration Committee was organized. It was made up of two representatives from every parlor of the organizations in this county.

On October 20, in order to arouse greater enthusiasm, the entire committee visited the Mission, saw its condition and returned with a greater determination to continue their efforts until the old building was restored. Theater parties were held, a big carnival given in Niles in May, 1913, and another in 1915 at the Mission; the Landmarks Committee of the Grand Parlor contributed generously; part of a balance left from the 1913 Admission Day Celebration, held in Oakland was secured, and various subordinate parlors sent in donations; the Board of Supervisors of Alameda County helped in an indirect way by bearing the expense of the advertising of the celebrations at the Mission. Thus was money gradually accumulated until there was or had been spent $3500 which is the amount ever spent. With this fund an entire new roof has been erected and is so constructed as to remove all the weight from the adobe walls, this roof being covered on one side with tiles, amply protected on the other side until the committee is able to complete the work. The walls have been safeguarded. When additional funds are available tiles will be placed on the floor of the corridor and other improvements made. As the Mission now stands it is thoroughly protected, which is most fortunate in view of the heavy rains which have recently fallen.

John D. Haar of Hayward was the architect and he entered upon the work with genuine Native Son enthusiasm. The result speaks for itself. Another hard worker has been Geo. L. Donovan the committee's efficient secretary. Living near the Mission, Mr. Donovan was called upon frequently, particularly during the progress of the work of restoration, by the chairman and other members of the committee, and always responded promptly. He watched the work carefully and kept the committee fully informed as to progress. The success of the Niles and Mission celebrations are largely due to his efforts.

It is a keen satisfaction to all those who have had a part in this important work to know that they have contributed, even in a small way, toward saving this historic landmark. By preserving these old missions we are not alone paying a deserved tribute to those devoted and early Franciscan missionaries, the original pioneers of California, but we are arousing interest in the early history of this State of which every Californian is justly proud.

TREASURERS REPORT

Report of Treasurer—Treasurer Mission San Jose Restoration Committee—to January 25, 1916.

RECEIPTS

Mission San Jose Pageant	$1000.00
N. S. G. W. Grand Parlor	1000.00
Orpheum Theatre Benefit	962.00
Niles Carnival Benefit	950.00
N. S. G. W. Parlor Donations	300.00
N. D. S. W. " "	95.00
Oakland Grand Parlor N.D.G.W.	11.99
Interest on Deposits	54.50
	4374.74

DISBURSEMENTS

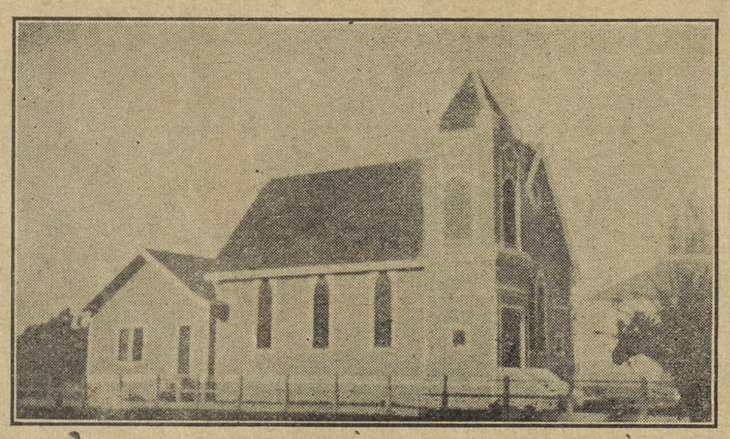
Expended on Restoration of Mission San Jose	$3486.00
Expense Orpheum Theatre	515.00
	4001.00
Balance on hand	$373.72

Newark, the Town with Great Possibilities

Opportunities for the Manufacturer Unsurpassed

Advantages of Water Front and Railroad Facilities

No town in the township is at this time exhibiting more activity, or showing better prospects for going ahead than Newark in the southwest part of the county. Admirably located on the Oakland to San Jose line and the Dumbarton cut-off of the Southern Pacific railroad, with wharves on the San Francisco bay water front, a quarter mile from the town, 16 miles from San Jose and 24 from Oakland, the town offers the best location for new industries to be found in the whole Bay district. And the people are going after these factories in a way that should get results. There is a considerable tract of land especially desirable as factory locations and the offer is made of free sites to those who will build and occupy them, and there is the further inducement of building homes to be sold on the installment plan to workmen brought here by these factories, thus combining industrial and home developing, and promising much for the making of a considerable city.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, NEWARK

Agriculturally the land surrounding Newark is of the lower kind characteristic of the east bay country and especially adapted to raising hay and alfalfa, a condition which has made it the dairy are over 2,000 cows being milked in the tributary territory and the plants for handling their product are generally first class.

It is however the possibilities and natural advantages of Newark as a location for manufacturing industries that the people are particularly trying to bring to the attention of the world. This work is being promoted by a live Chamber of Commerce, of which J. L. Ruchin is president and Rev. James Curray secretary, and of which all the leading business men of the town are members. They are persistently drawing attention to the free factory sites they have to offer, their nataurally advantageous location on the shores of the bay, their unexcelled railroad facilities, their advantages from the labor standpoint, and the ease of acquiring homes here. These are all considerations of vital importance to the manufacturer who is called upon to make a large investment in property for the conduct of his business, an dthey offer much food for thought on the part of the manufacturer of the large city, handicapped by the necessity of increasing his plant, to do which will require a heavy investment. To such we cannot too strongly urge that they give consideration to the offerings Newark has to make.

Of the industries already etsablished the stove foundry of the James Graham Manufacturing Company is the leading, it having been in existence here since 1882, and has turned out thousands of its well known brand of "Wedgewood" stoves and ranges. The plant employs 150 men and has an annual payroll of upwards of $200,000. The foundry is the largest of its kind west of Chicago and is thoroughly equipped for the turning out of a high class product.

The Newark Lumber Co. is another extensive concern, carrying a large stock of lumber and at the same time doing all kinds of mill work, its product of sash and doors going into the market over a large territory. The company is also a heavy owner of town property, in which it deals to a considerable extent. The Ingraham Machine Shops is another extensive institution employing several men, and a new enterprise is turning out eucalyptus products and promises to develop into a large business.

The improvements of the town are of a substantial character and creditable to the spirit of the community. A fire ditsrict has been formed which is equipped with a chemical engine and hook and ladders, with a volunteer company for its operation. There are good roads, streets are well cared for and lighted. In all these improvements the Chamber of Commerce has been active as well as the promotion of the public library which is the best quartered of any in the township, has a large number of books, reading rooms, etc., and is made use of to a large extent by the people of the community. Protection of railroad crossings has also received attention of the Chamber of Commerce and much good has been accomplished in that way.

Newark has a strong church society in the Presbyterian which was organized here in 1894, and a church built the same year at a cost of $1,500. To this an addition was made in 1912 at a further cost of $1,600. The building is therefore well provided to take pleasant auditorium, Sunday school rooms, pastor's study, dining room and kitchen. A good parsonage is also a part of the church property, the whole of which has a value of $6,500, and is without debt. The society has a membership of 44 and regular services are held every Sunday morning and evening. A Sunday school, of which Miss Florabelle C. Brown is superintendent, enrolls 90; the Ladies' Aid Society, Miss Mary I. Brown, president, and a Christian Endeavor Society, Miss Grace Morton, president, are all active auxiliaries in the church work and have been very successful, especially in maintaining the church benevolent work. The church is in charge of Rev. James Curry, who has been here eight years and made a host of friends both in his congregation and throughout the township. Rev. Curry has been the longest in active service of any minister in the Presbytery, having been in the state 42 years, and has served as moderator and as a delegate to the General Assembly of the church, is president of the Presbyterian Historical Society of California, and has always been active in public affairs. He serves as secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and is in all ways a leader in the community. The church board is composed of S. F. Brown, John Logan, and John A. Sullivan.

The Edwards Catholic Church has a large congregation and one of the prettiest churches in the township, which has been brought about very largely through the activity of the ladies of the church who take great pride in their work. The church is served by Fathers Sousa and Barron, of Centerville.

The Newark school has an enrollment of about 150 and employs five teachers, J. L. Bunker, principal, Miss Helen Blacow, Miss Agnes Lernhart, Miss Ruth Blair, and Miss Elva Taylor, special music teacher. The district has just completed a new school building which will be occupied soon, and which is one of the best on the Pacific Coast, having been designed by F. D. Wolfe of San Jose, the leading architect in that line. It has four class rooms, manual training and domestic economy quarters, and auditorium seating 400 and with a well equipped stage, scenery, stereopticon, etc. The building is built on the mission style, around a court, all on one floor, and is a most handsome building in every way. It is modern throughout, with library, teachers' rest room, principal's office, lavatories and toilets, septic tank sewage disposal, hot air heat, vacuum cleaners, electric lights, and an air pressure water system. The grounds are now of course in the condition always found after building operations, but they will be well graded, parked, and planted to trees and shrubbery, and play ground equipment put in. Manual training and domestic science will be added to the curricula in the near future. The building was erected at a cost of $18,000, and is located on four and a half acres of land. Mr. Bunker, the principal, has been with the school four years and in school work in the state 12 years, formerly having been a member of the board of education of Placer county, and under his management the school has continued to grow and improve. The school board is composed of F. Falk, clerk, A. T. Biddle and Mr. D. Silva, and there is a most excellent feeling between the people of the district and the school.

Newark takes pride in having a large Museum of Qrinthology and Oology, the property of Mr. H. A. Snow who has been a student along these lines many years and has gathered about him a very valuable collection, which is open to the public and has a very great educational value. Mr. Snow is also a leading business man, handles the real estate in which is embraced the factory sites, and is prominent in the Chamber of Commerce work.

Newark has 18 passenger trains daily, affording a service unexcelled in whatever direction one may wish to travel. Being on the Dumbarton cut-off there passes through the town all the eastern freight traffic from San Francisco, and it has large outgoing shipments of stoves, mill work, eucalyptus mill products, hay and milk, while there comes in much lumber, coke, steel,, etc. The company has excellent trackage facilities and is in a position to encourage new business enterprises desiring to locate here. Mr. Purcell is agent here and in the year of his residence has proven a most accommodating gentleman and made many friends.

All lines of business are represented in Newark, among others in addition to those otherwise mentioned are two good general stores conducted by S. A. D. Buchanan and Silvey & Munyan Co., both of which are well stocked and enjoy a good trade.

The town has a population of about 700, is beautifully situated, and has many giant eucalyptus trees which grow particularly well The people have come to look forward with great confidence in the future of their town, and conditions are such that there every reason to expect the realization of their hopes.

CATHOLIC CHURCH, NILES.

An indication of what the state highway is to Niles may be seen in the fact that a count during one hour in the afternoon of Sunday, February 13th, showed 382 automobiles passed through the main street of the town. This is long before the real season's rush begins and summer time will see this very much greater. Many of the machines on that date were loaded with blossoms and flowers gathered in the country.

WESLEY HOTEL

The Wesley Hotel is one of the best known business institutions of the town, it having gained a reputation far and wide for the high class of service rendered. Mr. J. J. White, the proprietor, came here eight years ago, and built the hotel which he operates. He is an old experienced hotel and restaurant man, knows thoroughly how to please his patrons, and the success with which he meets that end is indicated by the large trade his place enjoys. The hotel is a two story modern building, with 30 guest rooms, and is conducted on the European plan. Rooms are large and well furnished, and cared for in a way to make them inviting and comfortable. In connection there is a first class grill where all the delicacies of the city market can be found and served with that high class of service which is so essential to the enjoyment of a good meal. The grill appointments are all of the very best, the kitchen being presided over by a competent chef, and the very best of equipment used. In the management of the business there is the active assistance of Mrs. White, who is an experienced hotel woman, and her careful eye overlooks all details.

In connection an up-to-date bar is operated, stocked with the best wines and liquors, and there, too is found the high service which characterizes the entire place. Mr. White takes an active interest in all things looking to the upbuilding of the town and is highly regarded.

HOTEL WESLEY, NILES

WARM SPRINGS IN A GOOD COUNTRY

Rich Prune and Grape Land

Though one of the smaller towns of the county, Warm Springs is by no means its least important and there is surrounding it a farming country of great fertility and varied products which make for continued wealth and prosperity. The soil is similar to that about Irvington, deep, and with a clay subsoil. Much grain is grown and since the earliest days grapes have been a leading product though there has been a falling off in this respect in recent years.

The town is located on the San Jose branch of the S. P. railroad which affords good shipping facilities, and frequent passenger service, and is on the line of the new state highway which will be completed this year. It has two general stores which well meet the needs of the community, a blacksmith shop, and a saloon.

Probably the most important feature of Warm Springs is its excellent public school which enrolls 120 pupils and has a particularly strong teaching force composed of F. J. Lazarus, principal, and Misses May Davis and Mary Driscoll. Mr. Lazarus has been its head seven years, is a graduate of the San Jose Normal school and one of the town's most progressive citizens. The school board is composed of P. Sorenson, clerk, Manuel Brown and M. E. Silva, gentlemen who bear the highest confidence of the community and have had an important part in bringing the school up to its present high standard. The school building is a two story frame structure with four rooms and a large assembly room and is well fitted for the use for which it was intended.

Societies of the U. P. E. C., I. D. E. S., and S. P. R. S. I. have good lodges in Warm Springs and it is about these lodges that the most of the social life of the community evolves. The Catholic people, who constitute a considerable part of the section, are served by the church at Mission San Jose, of which Rev. C. E. Kernedy is the pastor.

PROF. F. J. LAZARUS
Principal Warm Springs School

Near Warm Springs is the Stanford place, one of the old farms of the community, on which is found the spring flowing warm water which attracted much attention from the early settlers and from which the town acquired its name.

The farm of Manuel Brown, road overseer of Washington township, is near Warm Springs and one of the well improved places of the county. Mr. Brown was raised in this section and has been on his present place for eleven years. It comprises 80 acres and is given over to the raising of fruit and barley, of which yields of the latter he reports to be from 20 to 40 sacks per acre. Prunes are found an excellent crop and he has cleared as high as $3,000 on 20 acres. The place was formerly given over very largely to the raising of grapes but these have been taken out to a considerable extent and there are now but 10 to 12 acres in bearing. The place also produces all kinds of fruits in its family orchard and there are many palm trees and much shrubbery which makes of it a beautiful country home. Mr. Brown has been prominently identified with the upbuilding of the community and a leading citizen in every way.

The ranch of C. A. Warren of San Francisco also adjoins Warm Springs, and consists of 1400 acres given over largely to grain raising for which it is particularly adapted, 900 acres having been sown to grain this year.

Two general stores provide good trading facilities. Azevedo & Brown conduct one, the latter gentleman also being postmaster, and there, too, is located the branch library, which has a good reading room and many books of general reading and reference. H. Allard conducts the other store and is also the telephone exchange which connects many of the farms.

SOME NILES BUSINESS CONCERNS

THE RIGHTWAY

The Rightway is one of the younger business institutions of Niles, dating from last June when Mr. A. O. Lindberg the proprietor purchased the dry goods and furnishings department of the Mason & Orpin stock. The store carries a full line of dry goods, ladies' furnishings shop, and notions, as complete as necessary to meet all the needs of a town of this size. A specialty is made of the shoe line, Florsheim's for men and Johansen's for ladies being the brands and these are both so well known for high quality as to require no comment. Embroidery and fancy goods is also an important part of the stock. Mr. Lindberg buys and sells for cash and conducts his business according to the higher ethics of merchandising, selecting his goods to meet the needs of his trade and putting a price on them fair to buyer and seller, and under this plan is able to meet all competition, city or country. Service—that thing which more than any other makes for satisfaction,—is a hobby of the store and in it the able assistance of Mrs. Lindberg is found. Mr. Lindberg has spent 22 years in his line and came here from Brigham City, Utah, where he conducted a large cash business for five years. He has made many friends here and is recognized as a first-class business man.

L A NESLER.

Mr. Nesler has been one of Niles' business men for seven years and operates a large establishment given over to the making of monuments, memorials, headstones, coping and terrazzo work. The output uses stone from the best quarries of both this and foreign countries and Mr. Nesler's 18 years experience enables him to put out a class of work which merits the constantly increasing business which he enjoys. His trade covers a wide territory, including the San Joaquin, Sacramento and Santa Clara valleys. Decorative stone work of all kinds is furnished to order, lettering and repairing of old work is done in cemeteries, estimates and designs are made, work being erected or shipped to all parts of the Pacific Coast. Many beautiful specimens are displayed at the works and in all the cemeteries of the county many of the finest memorials are the products of this establishment.

Mr. Nesler takes an active part in civic affairs, particularly those that have for their effect the upbuilding of Niles and Washington Township.

LEMONS NEAR NILES.

The adaptability of this section to the raising of lemons has been demonstrated in a small way for many years but has never been attempted in a commercial way. Mr. W. E. Gibson who has owned a place east of Niles for eight years, observed the thrift and heavy bearing of his lemon tree and was so impressed that he began a careful study of lemon growing, visiting lemon bearing sections, and became convinced that about Niles was to be found as favorable conditions, both of soil and climate, as any place in the West and he determined to engage in the business. He now has five acres of trees one and two years old which are doing very well and he is encouraged to think they will prove very successful. Mr. Guy Marriner supervises the place for Mr. Gibson.

The 100-acre farm of Mrs. Robert Swayne east of Niles was settled upon by her father, M. J. Overacker, in the early '60s, and has ever since been one of the big producing farms of the valley. There are large apricot orchards, considerable alfalfa, and the balance of the farm is given over to raising vegetables, garlic and tomatoes leading. Mrs. Swayne makes her home in Alameda, and the farm is under the supervision of Mr. M. J. Silva, who has been connected with it for 30 years. The improvements of the place are of the very best.

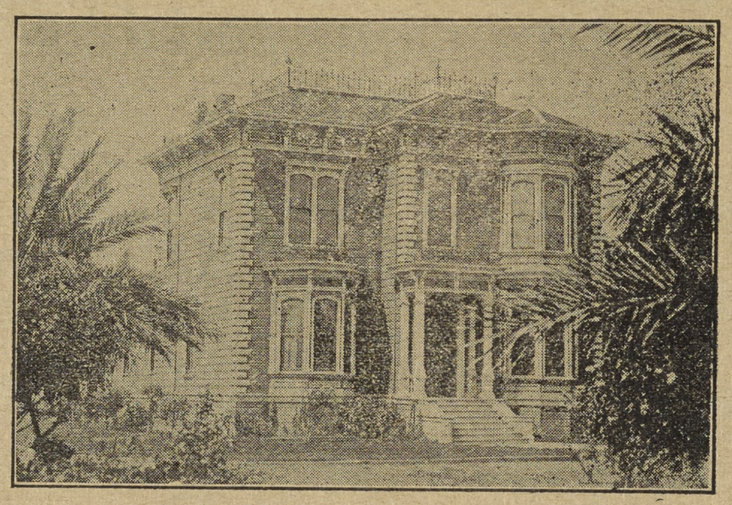
IRVINGTON A THRIVING TOWN

(Continued from Page 6.)

where they are on sale almost the year round.

Grape culture has received much attention hereabouts for years and several wineries are tributary, that of the Los Amigos Winery and Vineyards of Grau & Werner being one of the finest of the state. It has 100 acres of grapes the plants for which were especially selected six years ago in France, and the winery has a capacity of 100,000 gallons. The product has in the past been very largely exported but European war conditions have effected that market and made necessary its sale in this country.

The country about Irvington is capable of producing all those products elsewhere mentioned as peculiar to Washington Township, considerable grain is grown, and there is an increasing acreage of orchards being put out. There is here one of the oldest orange orchards in the county and its healthy condition proves adaptability in that way. The town is peopled by a high class of citizens who have great faith in their country and who welcome others who come to make a home among them.

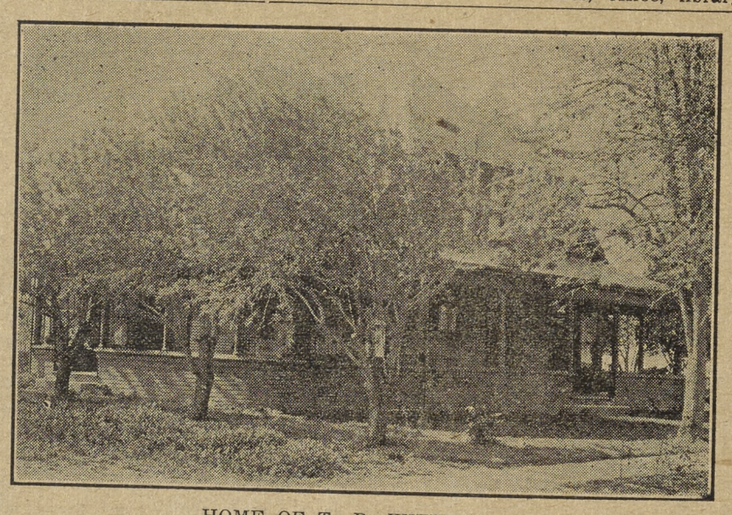


FORMER THREFALL HOME AT IRVINGTON
Owned by T. D. Witherly

The home of Mr. C. B. Overacker east of Niles is one of the old and good ones of this section. There are 40 acres given over to the raising of apricots, corn, tomatoes and peas, and the place has good improvements throughout. Mr. Overacker is one of the old settlers of the country and has been prominent in its development. Mrs. Overacker is also a leader in civic affairs, is clerk of the school board, a member of the County Welfare Commission, is prominent in Club Work, and generally a very busy woman, whose efforts in such matters are much appreciated.

THE ALVISO SCHOOL.

The Alviso neighborhood, between Centerville and Alvarado, has a country school which at once attracts the attention of the stranger with favorable comment. The school occupies a two acre plat of ground, and the building, erected in 1912, at a cost of $5,400, has two class rooms, office, library well equipped boys and girls dressing rooms, sanitary closets, and every convenience to produce the best results. The library has 1000 books of reference and general reading, and baseball, basketball and vollyball, for which equipment is provided, makes exercise for the pupils. The principal is M. L. Alvas, serving his second year, and a graduate of the San Jose Normal, and he is very popular with pupils and patrons. Miss Lillian Sandholdt, a graduate of the University of California, is his assistant.



HOME OF T. D. WITHERLY

A cornet band has recently been organized in Niles with 24 pieces and the members are busy in perfecting themselves to a degree that will put them among the best musical organizations. M. J. Silva is president and manager, and a leader from Oakland has been engaged.

WHITAKER COMING

Rev. Robert Whitaker of Los Gatos has accepted an invitation from the Men's League to speak in the Congregational Church Sunday evening, March 12th. His subject will be "The Cosman". Mr. Whitaker is always given a cordial welcome in Niles.

Adjoining the townsite of Niles on the north, and within almost a stone's throw of the Southern Pacific station, is one of the oldest and best farms of the county, that of Mrs. E. B. Mayhew. This place is noted particularly for two things, a spring of mineral water impregnated witn sulphur, and the only commercial orange orchard in this section. The latter was set out over twenty years ago and it has demonstrated that with proper care and attention oranges can be grown here commercially with profit. The farm is beautifully located among the hills of the valley's rim and would, if divided into small tracts, furnish sites for many fine homes.

PROGRESS EDITION

NEWS SECTION

The Washington Press

NEWS SECTION

THE ALAMEDA COUNTY PRESS

VOLUME XXVII | NILES, ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1916 | NUMBER 27

New Hospital For This End of County

Livermore to be Site of New Institution for Care of Those Suffering From Tuberculosis

Supervisor Murphy Arranges to Lease the Rudolph Property; State to Help Support Same

Alameda County, through the efforts of Supervisor D. J. Murphy, is to set the mark for all tuberculosis institutions in the United States, according to the plans perfected by the supervisor, who is chairman of the county board Dr. C. A. Wills of the Alameda Infirmary, and Miss E. L. M. Tate, in charge of the State Board of Health tuberculosis work. The beautiful hills behind Livermore will contain a remarkable model sanitarium, separate from the remainder of the hospital, although the offer by the State of $12,000 a year, to cost even less to operate than the present inadequate wards.

News of the plan, by which Chairman Murphy, working for weeks, has landed the county a remarkable hospital bargain, set the pace for other counties in dealing with one of the most serious problems of today and put another spike in the proposed "City hospital plan" advocated by Oakland realty dealers, was made public at the meeting of the Supervisors last Monday, when it was announced he had a lease on the historic old homestead property near Livermore, owned by Charles Rodolph. The Supervisors inspected the property Wednesday.

esides starting a new work for the county by his plan and the method of handling it, Chairman Murphy has removed one of the arguments of the Oakland realty dealers in their attempts to move the county hospital.

Irvington

Randolph Griffin is in town this week.

Dr. L. S. Anderson was taken to the Garden City Sanitarium at San Jose last Friday and on Monday underwent an operation for appendicitis. Last reports indicate that he is doing nicely.

Mrs. Ed. Hirsch and daughter spent Saturday in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Tierney, Mrs. Grimmer and Mrs. Roderick enjoyed a motor trip to Ripon last Sunday.

Miss Emily Mederios is visiting with her parents.

Mrs. Joe Costa is entertaining her sister, Miss Frencis Martin.

Mrs. S. Decoto spent Sunday in San Francisco.

GUESTS AT BELVOIR.

Melville Bowman, Frederick Woods Jr., A. D. Wilder, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Westfall, Sam Day, Miss Sophie Herrick, J. J. Kelly, F. E. Wemer, San Francisco.

E. H. Harlow, Richmond.

H. Ormsby Philips, Pasadena.

Miss Willis Critchlow, Salt Lake City.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Sherman and son, San eLandro.

P. J. Daniels, C. Batsford, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Johnson, S. C. Johnson Jr., C. G. Powers, Gladys Nelson, J. R. Garrison, Oakland.

Mrs. M. Shortridge, San Leandro.

I. O. Trousdell, San Jose.

United Artisans Give Successful Dinner

The United Artisan Dinner was a great success. The table was beautifully set for about thirty. Master Artisan Peterson manfully carried the young porker which was pronounced by all the best they had ever tasted, and the flavor of young pig was a cross between turkey and chicken. After a brief business meeting, the third in the series of 500 was finished. At the end it was announced that Mrs. P. Mathiesen had the highestscore, 4900. Mr. W. Wyatt, highest gentleman, 3750; Mrs. Rogers and Mr. Percy Bell carried off the consolation.

Alvarado

Mr. Fred Joyce has moved his family from San Francisco and they are now occupying the Lassen cottage.

Mr. Edgar Tainton for a number of years bookkeeper for the Alameda Sugar Co., has accepted a position in Berkeley and expects to move shortly to the college city. Mr. and Mrs. Tainton have many friends who will regret to see them leave.

Mr. John Ralph has purchased from Rose Bros. of Niles one of the popular Buick light sixes. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph have both mastered the car.

Mr. Henry Naurett, who was in charge of the J. H. Williams Company of Brooklyn exhibit of drop forgings and wrenches at the Fair is enjoying a vacation at the family home.

The Avilla Bros. are erecting a new dairy on the property they purchased from Mr. Althauser.

Decoto

Mrs. J. T. Olson entertained a numbe r of her friends last Tuesday evening The evening was very pleasantly spent in playing various games and Five Hundred. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hanley, Peter Decoto, Mrs. D. M. Huff, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Trask, Mr. and Mrs. Henry May, Miss Elma Ingalls, Miss Gertrude May, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Simmons, Ben Godkin. Mrs. Huff won the ladies first prize, Mr. Trask the first prize for gentlemen, Miss Gertrude May carried off the consolation prize.

Several carloads of cauliflower are being shipped from Decoto by the Garin Fruit and Produce Co. The output is not quite so large as last year although it will amount to about a dozen carloads.

Notice of Dissolution of Partnership

Notice is hereby given that the Copartnership heretofore existing between the undersigned Harry G. Stratton and James M. Cochran, conducting a laundry business at the Town of Niles, Alameda County, California, under the firm name and style of NILES STEAM LAUNDRY, was on the 5th day of February 1916, dissolved by mutual consent. The said parties retiring from the Laundry business. The said Harry G. Stratton, having acquired all the interest of the said James M. Cochran, will wind up and close the affairs of the firm.

All persons indebted to said Copartnership are requested to make payments to said Harry G. Stratton, and the said Harry G. Stratton is to assume and pay all the liabilities and debts now outstanding against the said firm of Niles Steam Laundry.

Dated this 5th day of February 1916.

HARRY G. STRATTON.
JAMES M. COCHRAN.

Spare time can be turned into knowledge and knowledge into $$$$$$. Ask Fray, the I. C. S. man, what he can do for you. Address P. O. Box 265 Oakland, Cal.

J. E. Wamsley Passes Away

J. E. Wamsley for many years station agent at Irvington, and who was in many ways identified with the township, passed away last Thursday Two years ago Mr. Wamsley left the employ of the railroad company and later took up his residence in Oakland The deceased was an enthusiastic worker for whatever would advance the interests of the township. He had many friends in all parts of the township who cherish his memory.

The funeral was held Saturday morning, interment being made in the I. O. O. . cemetery.

Besides the widow, Mr. Walmsley leaves two daughters, Mrs. Sadie Banner an d Mrs. Julia Claus; five sons, Fred, Harry, William, George, and Joseph Walmsley, and three step sons, Adrain, Earl and Harry Russell.

CARD OF THANKS

To our many friends at Irvington, we wish to express our sincere thanks for the kindness and sympathy shown us in our bereavement in the loss of our dear father.

Mrs. Sadie Bonner — W. H. Wamsley
Mrs. Julia Clause — Geo. Wamsley
H. E. Wamsley — B. F. Wamsley

Grand Ball Saturday Night at Irvington

The "greatest event of the season" will undoubtedly be the grand ball Saturday, March 4, at Maple hall, Irvington, for the benefit of St. Joseph's Church, Mission San Jose. Maple hall has the best dance floor between Oakland and San Jose, and the dance music will be furnished by the well known K. I. orchestra of 20 pieces of San Francisco. Think of 20 pieces —that means 20 players A long time since you danced to the music of a 20 piece orchestra.

Not only will all the latest dances be given, but also the older favorites such as the lancers will be provided.

Refreshments will be served through out the evening by the committee working under the direction of Mrs. M. V. Perry.

Benj. F. Hawes Dies, Aged 89

Benjamin F. Hawes, a pioneer of this State and for many years sheriff of Calaveras county in its most romantic period, passed away at his home last Sunday. He was 89 years of age. For the past twenty one years he resided in San Francisco.

He is survived by a widow, Mrs. Mildred E. Hawes, and seven children Frank T. Hawes of Centerville, Talton Hawes and Harry H. Hawes; Mrs. W. W. Steele, Mrs. W. A. Dower, Mrs. Eva Stealey and Mrs. M. Wilder.

Mr. Melville Bowman and Miss Helen Hinckley to Wed

The engagement of Mr. Melville Bowman to Miss Helen Hinckley, one of Nevada's fair daughters, is announced. The wedding is to take place in the late spring.

Every Nilesite who can claim an acquaintance with the prospective bridegroom, the genial business man of the gravel industry here, is ready to offer congratulations in advance of the marriage ceremony and extend a welcome to his bride who must be surpassingly fair to have won his allegiance away fro mCalifornia's lovely maidens.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned administrator of the Estate of May L. Dees, nee May L. Threlfall, deceased, to all persons having claims against the said deceased to, within ten months after the first publication of this notice, either file them, with the necessary vouchers, in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of Alameda or exhibit them, with the necessary vouchers, to me at the office of B. C. Mickl at Centerville. Alameda County, State of California, which place the undersigned selects as the place of business in all matters connected with said estate.

ARTHUR R. DEES,
Administrator of the estate of May L. Dees, nee May L. Threlfall, Deceased.

Dated, Oakland, December 20th., 1915.
First publication of notice Feb. 11, 1916

Purely Personal Pickups

Dr. Taylor has moved from his former location in the McRae building into the Preston house.

Superintendent Hartman of the Masonic home was a Niles visitor yesterday.

FOR SALE—Electric bar sign. A bargain if taken at once. For particulars and price inquire of Mrs. Ida Easterday, Niles, Cal.

FOR RENT—Store on most prominent corner in Niles For particulars apply to Mrs. Ida Easterday, Niles.

Wm. Catterlin was a Berkeley visitor Sunday.

Mrs. Clark of Pacific Grove, mother of Mrs. H. Plummer of Niles, and her two sons, one of Stockton and the other of New York City, with his bride are guests at Belvoir.

Mr. and Mrs. Sigmund Salz have recently returned from a six weeks trip to southern California and across the border into Mexico.

Satisfied with your salary? I. C. S. training will increase your pay.

Mr. J. C. Shinn and family are expected home on Thursday of this week.

Recent rains have destroyed the beauty of the fruit tree blossoms but it is hoped the fertilization of the blossoms has not been damaged.

WANTED—Surrey, must be in good condition. Apply at Jas. L. Murphy, Livery Stable, Niles, Cal.

Don't forget the Chamber of Commerce meeting Tuesday evening.

Supervisor D. J. Murphy was a Niles visitor yesterday.

Dr. Taylor and wife made a trip to the city Friday.

Mrs. A.S.W. Grundy of Huntington Park spent Sunday with Mrs. C. R. Evans.

O. E. Walpert was a city visitor this week.

The Board of Dorectors of the Country Club will meet at the Club house Monday afternoon.

J. A. Fry, local representative of the International Correspondence Schools, would be glad to advise with those who desire to qualify themselves for any particular line of work. Address P. O. Box 265, Oakland, Cal.

The regular meeting of the Country Club will be held Tuesday afternoon at the Clubhouse in Centerville. Special music has been prepared for the ocacsion. "Pioneer Women Reminiscences" will be given by Mrs. Overacker, Mrs. Ellsworth, Mrs. Clough and Mrs. Eaton.

Mrs. Dever McLaren of Oakland has been a recent guest of the Misses Sharpe at Belvoir

Put knowledge in your head and you can put dollars in your pocket. An I. C. S. scholarship is the solution. Address Box 265 Oakland, for information.

Quiet Wedding at Mission San Jose

Miss Frances Silva and Mr. Manuel Josephs of Irvington were quietly wedded at St. Joseph's church at Mission San Jose last Wednesday morning. After the ceremony the happy couple left for San Jose where they were to leave on their honeymoon.

The bride and groom have a host of rfiends in and around Irvington, all of whom are wishing the newly weds a long and happy life.

J. A. Fray

J. A. Fray, manager for the International Correspondence Schools of Scranton, Pennsylvania, who is conducting a campaign in enrolling students in Niles and vicinity for the various courses offered by the I. C. S., says that since the opening of the I. C. S. in 1891 they have enrolled nearly 2,000,000 students in this and other counties an dthat there are now about 125,000 studying with the schools.

The instruction offered by the I. C. S. is high grade and is the only solution for an education to those who must work an dcan spend only their spare time in study.

Mr. Fray has had special training along educational lines and would be glad to meet personally those inteeested in securing training along any particular line. His local address is P. O. Box 265, Oakland, Cal.

Cold Weather Kills Flies

THE housedy, that industrious carrier of disease, had one hard season in England. Cold weather last July, which was much like British March weather, killed the fly, and it has been noted in the statistics that infantile diarrhea, which is often caused by flies poisoning the milk, has been extremely rare and that a kind of ptomaine poisoning, also due to the fly, has also been rare.

Regular Meeting of Niles Ladies' Guild

Carload of Old Paper to be Sent to Mill at Once; Last Chance to Contribute Your Magazines

Ladies are to Plant Lawn Around Congregational Church; Trees and Shrubs Already in

The Ladies Guild of the Niles Congregational Church met in the Guild parlor Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. Hicks and Mrs. Lindburgh as hostesses.

A large number of the ladies were present. A gift from Miss Estep of Oakland in memory of Mrs. L. E. Shinn was received. It is a beautiful picture of the statue, "Christianity emerging from Paganism," and also another copy of some beautiful verses to be hung just under the picture.

Communications from the Paper company were received and as there are nearly eight tons of paper on hand it was voted to send the paper away as soon as possible.

A vote of thanks was extened to the California Nursery for plants, to Geo. Rose for cartage, to Mr. Hansen for posts, and to Miss Estep for her gift.

The ladies are improving the grounds around the church, beautiful large trees have been planted on the sidewalk and Boston ivy around the building, and preparations are being made for a lawn.

After delicious refreshments served by the hostesses the Guild adjourned to meet in two weeks.

YOUNG MEN WANTED who desire to earn better salaries and do more congenial work. If able to read and write, and ambitious to succeed, we can qualify you for a position as mechanical, electric, steam, civil or mining engineer, architect, etc. Write at once, stating position wanted. Address I. C. S., Box 265, Oakland, Calif.

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A New Stock of This Latest and Popular Floor Covering Has Just Arrived. Call in and Look Them Over

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THE ALAMEDA COUNTY PRESS.

Telephone, Niles 71.

C. R. EVANS.....Editor and Publisher

Published at Niles, California Every Saturday Morning.

Subscription price $2.00 per year.

Entered at the Postoffice at Niles, Cal., as Second-Class Mail Matter

IN REGARD TO THIS EDITION.

In preparing this Special Progress Edition of The Press, no attempt has been made to write matter for the entertainment of those who live in this township. This edition has been prepared for the sole purpose of spreading the word of the glories of this section of the county, among those who live in other parts of the United States, and whose eyes are turned toward California.

While we are justly proud of the township in which we live, we have tried not to let our enthusiasm run away with us and have attempted to simply set forth facts and figures in an interesting way.

Don't put this paper away and forget it. You live here, therefore you know all the facts set forth herein, so this paper can do you no real good, but if you will sit down right now and mail it to some one somewhere, it may be the means of inducing that some one to come out and look us over.

Obey that impulse. **Mail it NOW.**

JOHN M. ESHLEMAN.

The death of John M. Eshleman, Lieutenant Governor of California, is a serious loss to the people of this State. Had he lived he would undoubtedly have succeeded to the office of Governor. He would have made an ideal successor to Governor Johnson. But the frail physical body that harbored one of the truest, wisest and most indomitable souls that ever served our State, has succumbed to the pace set for it and Jack Eshleman's work is over.

No man ever made a braver fight in the cause of humanity. No man ever worked harder to overcome insuperable obstacles and no man of our present generation accomplished more real good to the people of a great State than Jack Eshleman. Those who knew him intimately appreciated the grandeur of his splendid manhood. No man in public life ever more richly deserved the high esteem in which he was held. His life will always be an inspiration and his memory will be forever revered in California.

As time passes the great work of Jack Eshleman will be more truly appreciated and future generations will accord [illegible] the highest places in the great social and political revolution of California.

California produces more nuts than any other State. This has no reference to Napa or Stockton.

Col. Weinstock will cooperate with the prune growers of the State in the movement to organize an association similar to that recently formed by the peach growers of the State.

A BIG PROBLEM.

The problem of securing better marketing results for the truck farmers of our township is much more important even than the transportation problem. In fact it is one of the most important problems that we have to solve. Year after year our farmers go through the same experience. They spend all their time and money in preparing their truck for market and when it is ready they are absolutely helpless and entirely at the mercy of the commission men and the canneries.

Owing to the perishable nature of their product and the quick action necessary at market time it would seem that here would be an unusual need for a more systematic study of better marketing methods.

THE PEER OF ANY SECTION.

No agricultural section of California today shows up better than Washington Township. With the orchards everywhere in bloom, with all phases of agricultural activity full of promise for the coming season, with our lovely hills and fertile plains bedecked in greatest beauty, surely no fairer spot can be found on this earth than our section presents today.

It is a pity that the thousands of tourists who travelled through our section a few months ago are not privileged to see us now as we are at our best. And this is at the close of February, mind you.

PERMANENT ROADS.

The movement now being fostered to initiate the building of at least a small stretch of permanent road in this township each year is a good one. It is to be hoped that it will take definite shape and that the actual work will begin this year.

We hope that the various sections of the township will get behind the movement in truly patriotic fashion and be content to let the work begin wherever it is decided best to begin it. No local jealousy should be allowed to hinder it. Wherever it is once begun it is bound to spread until the present temporary system is supplanted in all parts of the township.

In considering the question of permanent roads we hope it will be possible to give consideration to the construction of at least a part of the system by the use of paving brick. Surely the paving brick industry in our midst which has already contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to the payroll of this section deserves the earnest support of our people. It ought to be fostered here at home. It deserves a trial. Let us show our appreciation of this big home industry of the county in the only practical way at our command—by using paving brick on some of our roads. Once used, it will demonstrate its own efficiency as a permanent and economical pavement.

SUGAR BEET INDUSTRY ASSURED.

The good news goes out this week that the present Congress will restore the duty on beet sugar. This news will be especially welcomed in this township. It means that the splendid industry that it has taken years to build up is not to be destroyed. The factory at Alvarado will now remain in operation for years to come. Not only the Alameda Sugar Company, but all Washington Township has cause to rejoice over the wise decision that has been made in Washington.

Hoopla! It's a Cinch For Us!

STANDING on one hand is difficult, but it is not as difficult as it is trying to beat us making pastry dainties. We have had long experience in this business, and we know how to do difficult things easily and well. Making nice, dainty pastry is not easy. Many women know this. Patronize us.

DARROW'S

Niles, California

That Leaky Roof

You Better See Us

You Will Find

FIRE-PROOF
WATER-PROOF
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ALSO MATERIAL FOR STOPPING LEAKS.

KEEP DRY AND SMILE

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EDWARD SALZ, Inc.

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REAL ESTATE

Acreage in Alameda County a Specialty

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FEED AND GRAIN

We always sell at lowest market prices
All kinds of FARMING IMPLEMENTS and VEHICLES
COAL LUMBER
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GET A GRIP

ON

CLEANING DAY

Don't spend all day sweeping the dirt about with a broom.

Get a grip on your housework----- use a

Electric Vacuum Gleaner

It takes all the dust and dirt out of the draperies, cleans the rugs carpets, furniture and clothing in less than one fourth the time that it takes with the broom and dust rag.

You can readily carry it upstairs and down.

Attach to any electric lamp socket.

Easy terms.

Pacific Gas and Electic Company

Alamed County District.

Geo. L. Donovan, Agent Niles, Cal

Have Common Conveniences

An electric iron doesn't cost much to own or operate; neither does an electric toaster; neither does a suction cleaner; ye all of them are conveniences that no home should be without. Why make life a drudgery without them. You should have them and

Have Them Now

Have your house or store wired by us. We have the knowledge and the experience necessary to do a good job.

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CALIFORNIA NURSERY CO.

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Phone Oakland 4379 OAKLAND, CAL.

Joseph Dias
Attorney-at-Law.
Residence and Office Centerville, Cal.

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Dentist
Office Hours: 9 to 12 and 2 to 5.
Irvington, California

Dr. T. F. Taylor.
Physician and Surgeon
Office Hours—
10 to 12 a. m. and 2 to 4 and 7 to 8 p. m
Theatre Buiding Niles, Calif.

LODGE MEETINGS

ALAMEDA LODGE, F. & A. M. Stated meetings at Masonic Temple, Centerville, for 1915: January 30, February 27, March 27, April 24, May 22, June 26, July 24, August 21, September 18, October 16, November 20, December 18.

E. M. GRIMMER, W. M.
A. T. BIDDLE, Secretary.

NILES LODGE, NO. 382, I. O. O. F. Meets every Monday evening at Niles.
BEN W. STONE, Noble Grand,
W. O. FORD, Vice Grand.
P. A. ELLIS, Secretary.

MAPLE CAMP NO. 146, W. O. W.— Meets every Second and Fourth Fridays of the Month in Stevenson's Hall, Centerville.
J. F. ROSE, Con. Com.
JOS. SOTO, Adv.
M. H. LEWIS, Clerk.
M. S. ALMAIDA, Banker.

Notice of Hearing Application for Liquor License

Notice is hereby given that Monday the 13th day of March, 1916, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m., at the rooms of the Board of Supervisors, in the annex to the Hall of Records, in the City of Oakland, has been fixed as the time and place for hearing the application of MANUEL S. SIMAS to obtain a renewal of a liquor license for the sale of liquor at Centerville, in Centerville Election Precinct.

GEO. E. GROSS,
Clerk of the Board of Supervisiors.
Dated Oakland, Cal., Feb. 21, 1916.
First publication, Feb. 26, 1916.

A. Anastasiu
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SUITS MADE TO ORDER
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Our Agent will accept deposits for prepaid tickets from Eastern points, delivering them without charge

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Niles Phone—Back 541
Alter, Pratt & Richmond
Undertakers
Licensed Embalmer
Lady Attendant
Niles Parlors, I. O. O. F. Building
Hayward and Niles

J. D. Ferry is reported to be at death's door and scores of his friends are anxiously awaiting news of his improvement.

Horace says that Clarise was not jealous of the lamb and he never had any trouble with her at all.

The *New*
MICHELIN
UNIVERSAL
TREAD

A *New* Casing
and
A *recl* advance
in tire making
One Quality Only—
The Best
Rose Bros. Garage Niles

LOIE FULLER AND (SOME OF THE GIRLS)

LOIE FULLER AT COUNTRY CLUB

A plea was made in last week's issue of this paper for donations in the shape of pound packages, of non-perishable food stuffs—one pound, two, three, or twenty—from the Mite you never will miss. These packages are to fill cases to be shipped to the Appui Belge, Palace of the Louvre, France, to aid the widows and orphans of war torn France and Free Belgium.

This Mite Society was organized by La Loie Fuller, the Idol of France, an American girl born in Chicago, but who owes to France her great success. She had unfolded the principle of color and color schemes. She had created a new art, taking Paris by storm in 1892.

Now the crowning work of her life will be a great tour of the Orient and then America, for France and Free Belgium's victims of the war, and this Mite gathering society which is establishing branches all over the country reaches out to those who unable to give much, or too overtaxed already to give more than they have given, can spare a pound of something.

The great and wonderous work of the American Commisison founded by Captain Lucey does not reach Free Belgium. Through its efforts no hunger or suffering, it is said, has yet fallen heavily on the great mass of the Belgium people, but not so with Free Belgium. Not so with that part of France, remaining by the side of its ally, Belgium, where Germany is strug gling for the supremacy of that little strip of land, where the whole country is filled with towns as close as Berkeley, Oakland and Alameda—a strip covering 40 miles one way by 12 miles the other.

Thousands remain there, unable to drag themselves through mud and slush to safety, and more often than not, they are women, children, and babies. What can they do? Only the old men are defending them. All able bodied men are in the trenches, and the poor ones left behind are shelled first, by the army invading their country, and then shelled by the other army trying to recover it.

A country where 80 per cent of the babies born during the first six months of the war died of starvation. The seat of the Belgium government is at Harvre, and the Military headquarters, Calais. The country which is called Free Belgium is where Ypres and Dixmund are. Since the battle of Yser, the small town of Poperinghe near Ypres, has seen its population increase from 8000 to 80,000 inhabitants. This increase is due not only to the presence of the French and British troops, who are stationed there, but also to the enormous quantities of refugees, who are anxiously awaiting a German retreat, which would permit them to return to their own homes.

These unfortunate people, enfeebled by privation, crowded into small and unhealthy lodgings, living without the most elementary hygiene are but too easy a prey for the epidemic of typhoid, which is ravaging the last part of Independent Belgium soil. This epidemic is greatly due to the infected water, known to be undrinkable, and to the nauseating odors eminating from the floods in which thousands of corpses are decomposing.

In the name of these unfortunate families, ruined by the war, of those little children it has made orphans, this pressing appeal is made to solicit aid.

The Appui Belge was organized in October, 1915, by three women, called at the Front—the Three Musketeers.

Miss Bloch, who will receive your gifts, directs the Ambulance service of the Appui Belge. Her ambulances, formerly the touring cars of women, are run by women and are exposed to schrapnel fire day or night. Going through privations and hardships, these women succor the unhappy creatures. Here, they aid in the removal of children and the sick from the zone of fire. Here, they work in the hospitals or carry supplies to families in the danger zone, or sacredly take down the last message of the dying.

Fearless you say! No! They have but one fear,—a nightmare fear,—that their little stream of supplies will fail.

At the Country Club House, Centerville, on the afternoon of Thursday, March the 9th, La Loie Fuller will be present, and everybody is invited to come. The only admission fee will be a donation package, whatever you wish to give—one pound, two, three or twenty—from the mite you never will miss. The program will commence at 2:30.

Mrs. George H. Wellington of Alameda, a noted contralto singer, accompanies Miss Fuller.

Exchange your packages for cards of admission or bring them with you, but by all means, COME, COME.

Any further information may be had by phoning Main 38 Niles, Mrs. Geo. N. MacRae, who is representing the Mite Society in the Township.

COUNTRY HOME OF C. B. OVERACKER, NILES

THE SCHOOL PARTY.

The Parent Teacher Association gave a party at the School last Friday evening which was a new venture and proved a decided success. The main hallway was arranged with small tables for cards. The Assembly Hall was cleared and the floor prepared for dancing. Violets, poppies and almond flowers diveded honors with pretty faces and dainty gowns in making a most attractive scene. Dancing began early and continued all the evening. All ages participated, but all hearts were young. Mr. Catterlin ran a unique photo gallery which created much amusement. Delicious refreshments concluded the happy evening.

ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS.

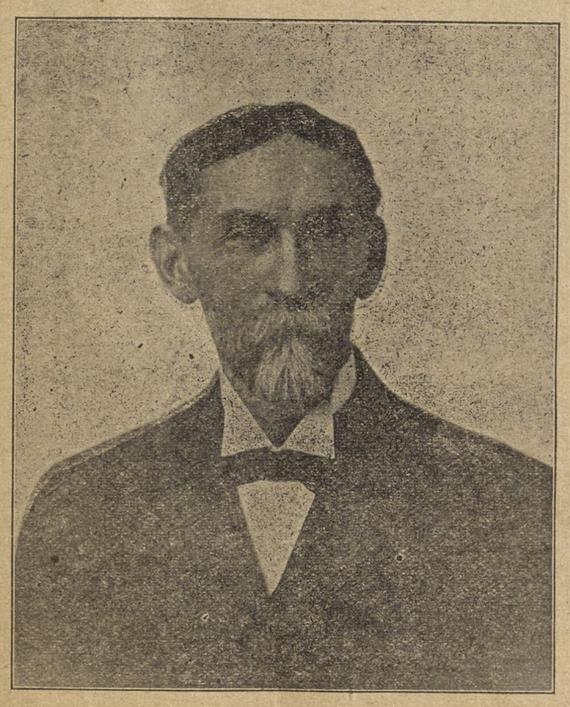
Two auto loads of delegates from Niles and representatives from Alvarado and Centerville Chambers of Commerce assembled at Centerville last Wednesday evening, the regular monthly meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce being scheduled.

Their trip however was a fruitless one for there were not enough Chambers represented to make a quorum.

The next meeting will be held at Decoto in April and officers for the coming year will be elected.

CHURCH GROUNDS IMPROVED

The grounds around the Congregational Church are rapidly assuming a new appearance. The Ladies Guild has planted shade trees along the parking, and vines to run up the brick walls, and is putting in a lawn. The change is already sufficiently marked to greatly add to the attractiveness of that corner.



REV. JAS. CURRY, OF NEWARK

California Building Material Co

A Home Industry

Industry in terms of office buildings giant concrete structures and miles of paved highway—such is the plant of the California Building Material Company at Niles with an output of 2000 tons of rock, gravel and sand per day, the leading Central California shipper of this commodity.

Nature has deposited upon the floor of the great valley, through which the Alameda Creek surges from the Niles canyon, for untold ages, a bonanza deposit of gravel. The material, submitted by Nature to heavy and continued attrition and erosion, is the selected material of the basaltic range drained by the Arroyo Alameda, the softer stone having been disintegrated and removed by the action of the water, leaving only the most perfect nodules of the country rock. In a word, this gravel deposit of the California Building Material Company is the cream of the geological formation in this vicinity known as the NILES CONE. It is upon this asset of inexhaustible supply (replenished yearly by fresh deposits of gravel carried down by the flood waters of the Alameda Creek) that the California Building Material Company has built up, in less than a decade, a plant second to none, with a production of over forty carloads of washed crushed rock, gravel and sand per day; materials because of their inherent indestructibility and adaptability to varied uses are the most valued construction material of the present day and more so of the future. It has been estimated that there is enough gravel in sight in the 100 acres comprising the deposit of the California Building Material Company to keep the plant running at capacity for 100 years, an asset of incalculable value.

It is an asset from which cities of the future will be built, as skyscrapers and miles of county and state highway, massive tunnels, such as the great Stockton Street tunnel in San Francisco, the largest flat arch structure of its kind in the world, are now turned out by the California Building Material Company as constituent terms of its daily operation.

Someone once asserted that every great going concern is the expression of an individual. The man behind Niles' biggest industry is Frederick N. Woods, Jr., President and General Manager of the California Building Material Company. The principal offices of the Company are located in the New Call Building, San Francisco.

The California Building Material Company produces a crushed and washed gravel in five sizes, ⅛ in. to ¼ in., ¼ in. to 1 in., 1 in. to 1½ in, and a crusher run from ¼ in. to 1½ in. In addition to the crushed gravels above enumerated, there is also produced a roofing gravel composed of spherical pebbles ranging in size from ⅛ in. to ½ in. Lastly a washed concrete sand and top gravel for sidewalk finish, complete the range of this company's varied products. The theory that broken quarried stone is better than gravel for concrete is true neither in theory nor in practice, which is demonstrated by the innumerable higher tests obtained with gravel concrete than with crushed stone. Many of the most important concrete structures in this part of California and the great bulk of the State Highway system of concrete roads have been built exclusively with gravel concrete.

The plant of the California Building Material Company, in strange contrast with the fruitful orchards encompassing it, is indeed a busy hive of industry, with its steam shovels, mammoth crane for loading and unloading cars, giant crushers and innumerable other equipment employed in the production of washed and graded gravel and sand for concrete and road construction. The present installation will be augmented within thirty days, by the addition of a cable excavator plant with an added capacity of 2000 tons of finished product per day.

Lent at St. James Church

The observance of Lent will commence on Ash Wednesday, March 8, with Litany, Penitential Office, Holy Communion, and Sermon, at 10:30 a. m.

On Friday, March 10th, the Rev. Dr. Powell, of the Seminary in San Francisco, will give an address at 7:30 p. m. These Friday night addresses, by prominent clergymen about the Bay, will be continued throughout Lent.

Old Padres Found Historic Mission

(Continued from Page 9.)

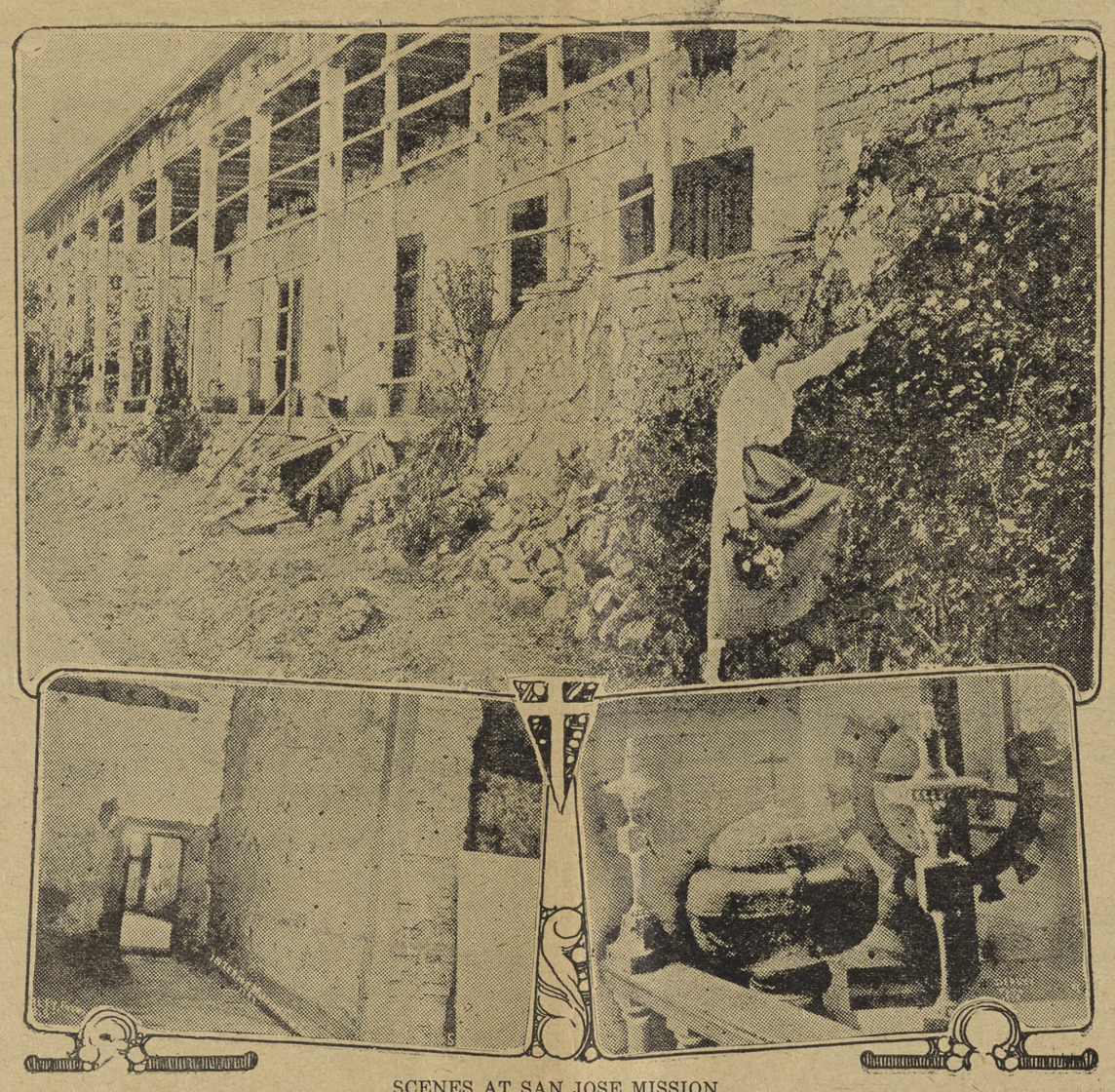
Supervisor D. J. Murphy being a lover of Mission San Jose and a loyal native of California, did wonders for us by securing a donation from the County funds of $1000, making a grand total in the treasury of about $5000. A building committee with full power to proceed with the restoration was elected and consisted of the following: Hon. Jos. R. Knowland, Oakland; F. F. Dusterberry, Centerville; W. M. Manning, Oakland; Chas. F. Corrigan, Oakland; J. J. Dignan, Hayward; W. W. Shuhaw, San Leandro; Mrs. C. H. Hall,. Piedmont; Mrs. Nellie De Blois of Oakland, and Geo. L. Donovan of Niles.

This Committee proceeded to restore the Mission with the idea of retaining the original appearance as much as possible. Not having money enough to place tiles on both sides of the roof, it was decided to tile one side and roof with high class roofing material the other side. The structure erected to hold this roof is immensely strong, and it has to be as the weight of the roof is close to one thousand tons. The structure is an improvement on the work of the Padres isasmuch as the weight of the roof is carried by immense pillars leaving the walls free from all weight and strain.

The roof, tiles and supporting structure cost $4500, leaving in the treasury about $500, which sum is to be used in repairing broken walls and plastering parts of the structure, and possibly if the funds hold out in placing a tiled floor like the original on the front portico.

The treasurer of the committee, Mr. W. W. Shuhaw of San Leandro, has devoted much of his time to the securing of funds and also in the restoration work. He has started a movement to have the manual training department of all the Alameda High Schools make and donate to the Mission the necessary windows and doors that are required.

Others who have done great work



SCENES AT SAN JOSE MISSION

Restoration A Patriotic Duty

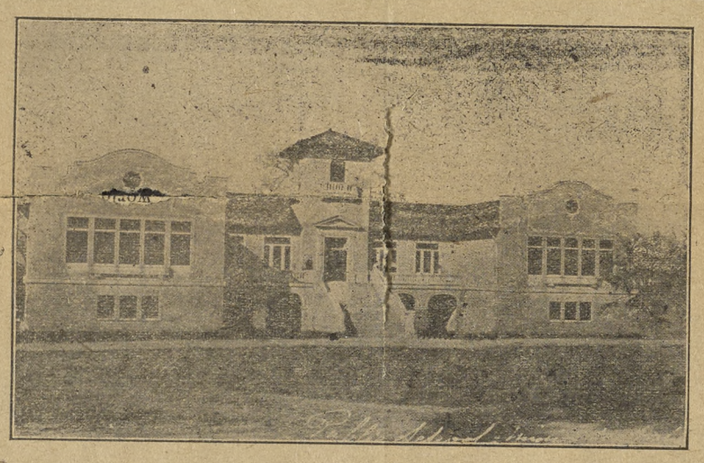
(Continued from Page 9.)

Diego in 1769 and ending at Sonoma in 1823, built the twenty-one Missions of California this land had been peopled by Indians, but hardly a record of them can be found. The race remained in darkness, devoid of science, art or agricultural advancement. The Missionaries brought civilization and established permanent settlements.

The Franciscan Friars were the first pioneers of the West. How much that word pioneer signifies—it embodies the civilization and the development of the nation. It speaks to us of dangers, tribulations and hardships. It was the pioneer spirit that led those who founded California over barren deserts, rugged mountains and through trackless forests; battling against storms and the barriers of nature and overcoming every peril and danger. It has planted the fig tree, the vine and the olive where the sage brush grew and the manzanita blossomed. It has builded cities and homes in our valleys and on our mountains and dotted our bays and rivers with the messengers of commerce.

The whole state is interested in the preservation of the Missions. But the work should appeal especially to those who reside near them. It appears that the Spanish Friars selected the most beautiful spots in this fair state upon which to plant their settlements. The matchless beauty of San Diego, of Santa Barbara, of Monterey, of San Antonio de Dadua, of San Buena Ventura, of the Santa Clara Valley and of Sonoma appeals to all who have visited them.

It was from the hills of Alameda County that the friars in skirting the newly discovered bay of St. Francis first beheld the Golden Gate and to honor the patron saint of California, St. Joseph, they determined to establish to the east of the bay a new Mission. For this reason, in June, 1797, near the base of a commanding peak and with poppy covered fields stretched westward to the shimmering waters of the bay they founded the



MISSION SAN JOSE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

are Chas. F. Corrigan of Oakland and J. J. Dignan of the Alameda County Hospital.

Of the Native Daughters too much praise cannot be given. They have worked hard all over the county and it is safe to say that without their cooperation the work would never have been done.

This movement could not be written up without a word about the late Henry Lachman. His very heart was in the restoration of the Mission and he was the means of making a great deal of money for the Niles carnival. The restoration work lost a great friend when he passed away.

J. E. Rogers and M. R. Telles of Mission San Jose have worked hard for the cause and are still working, and up and down the street of the quiet Mission town the eloquent voice of Wm. Rose can be heard extolling the past and present glory of Mission San Jose , always at work to help the restoration. And Harry Williams of Oakland Parlor was responsible for the big celebration in August.

There is much work yet to be done, and more money to be raised, but if nothing more were done the Mission as it is now would stand as a monument to the work of the Alameda County Native Sons and Daughters and to their love of California and her historic landmarks.

The Mission San Jose when finished will be used by the Sisters at the Mission for their Sunday school classes, thus making it one of the very few Missions that are perpetuating the teachings of the Padres and thus giving it the right religious atmosphere which it is sad to say has departed from the most of them. I wish to say a few words here of the old Indian cemetery belonging once to the Mission and which had dwindled down to a little triangle—a small corner overgrown with weeds. This little spot where some four thousand Indians are buried was to be turned into a cow pasture but for the intervention of Mrs. C. H. Stephens of Mission San Jose. After securing the little cemetery forever against any further encroachments she had the University of California look up the name of the Indian tribe which was found to be the Ohlones. She erected to their memory two magnificent monuments, and graded the cemetery approaches and placed a strong and beautiful wall on the front. When she had all this work finished she had the pastor of Mission San Jose, Rev. Father Kennedy, assisted by Father Costa of the Mission, Father Leal of Niles, and Father Souza and Father Barron of Centerville, dedicate it—and it is interesting to say here that the robes worn by Father Kennedy and the huge silver candelesticks and cross carried by the assistants were the original ones used in the same place and the same way to dedicate it by the Padres over one hundred years ago.

Motive San Jose's Restoration

(Continued from Page 9.)

ity by training them as well as instructing them. And so the Mission plan was to gather the Indians into a community of which the Padres were the head not only in religious matters but also in temporal affairs. The Indians were housed in huts adjacent to the Mission buildings and were thus under the constant watchfulness and control of the Missionaries.

Along with the work of tilling the fields, caring for the herds, and gathering of the crops, the holy days of the Church's calendar were celebrated with all possible solemnity and ceremony that the minds of the Indians might, little by little, have the lessons of these feasts impressed upon them.

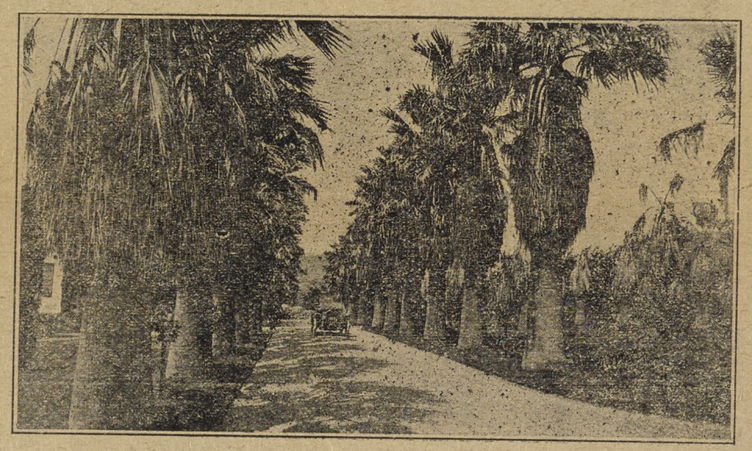
Because of the pagan observances of the unchristianized Indians the only way to insure perseverence in the faith was to entirely separate the Christians from those who had not been enrolled beneath the Cross of Christ.

The Missions thus became the home as well as the church of the natives. So much is written of the missions in general and so is true of Mission San Jose. Being founded nearly thirty years after the initial establishment of San Diego, Mission San Jose was given the benefit of the experience of these years, and so its progress was rapid and long continued. It was the most easterly of the chain of missions and the only mission on the continental side of the "Great Bay," near to the mountains, which were thickly populated by the Indians The number of the Indians who at one time lived within the jurisdiction of Mission San Jose was over eighteen hundred.

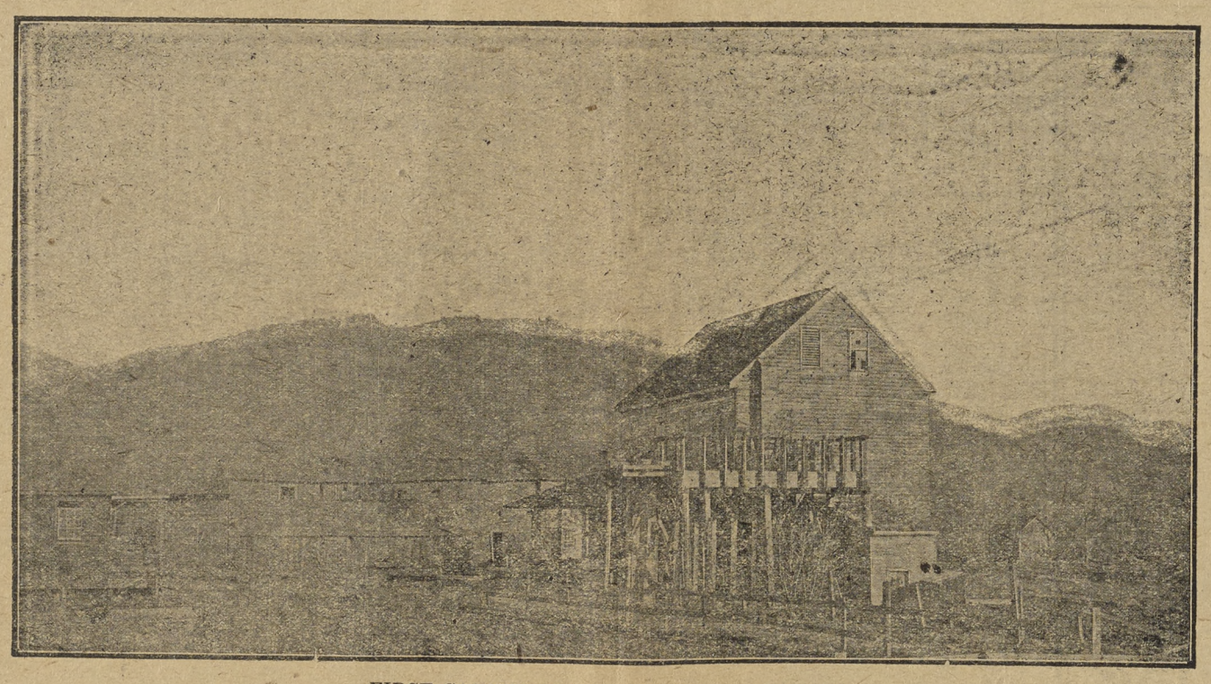
This large number gave the Missionaries a splendid opportunity for the work of evangelization which was well done, as the results attest, for the prosperity of the Mission, tho great in a temporal way, was still greater in spiritual affairs as the number of converts made year show.

With the change of government from the Spanish to the Mexican control, came the decline of the mission's material prosperity, and unfortunately a decline of Christian welfare also. For the Mexican government, in need of funds, devised a plan of "secularization", which was nothing more nor less than robbery to take over the property of the missions and apply the money obtained from the sale of these valuable holdings to the support of the government.

Fortunately Mission San Jose did not fare as badly as many others of the missions. Probably because of its remoteness from Mexico, probably because of the leniency of those who were charged with its secularization. Spiritually, it wielded an influence over the Indians long after it was deprived of its property.



PALM DRIVE NEAR MISSION SAN JOSE



FIRST CALIFORNIA FLOUR MILL, AT NILES

Years after the property of the missions had passed into other hands, a traveller after a trip through the land of the Missions describes how zealously the old gray haired priest of Mission San Jose gathered the remnants of the Indians on Sundays and sought to thus hold them true to the faith.

Shortly after this came the gold fever days of '49 and with the advent of many white men and their families, who realizing the wealth to be found not only in the mines of the Sierras but also in the soil of the foothill region of Mission San Jose, came a change from the old mission system to the present form of church discipline.

The mission's work was indeed, the parish work begun.

The padres have gone the Indians have gone, but the Mission building and the Cemetery of the Christian Ohlones Indians are mute reminders of the flourishing days of this first stronghold of Christianity on Alameda's shore.

The Washington Press devotes it's columns to the publication of the news the territory described in this edition. Subscription Price, $2.00 per year.

Mission San Jose. This was not alone the first permanent settlement in Alameda County but it was also the base from which exploring parties set out for the valleys of the Sacramento and San Joaquin. They soon, with civilizing influence, gathered around them the Indians of the mountains and valleys and instructed them in the arts and trades of peace. In a few years swaying fields of grain covered the lowlands, and the purpled slopes above smiled with the vine, the olive and the fig tree. Thousands of sheep and cattle grazed on the hillside and the hitherto untutored savage tended the herds and flocks, worked at the anvil and carpenter's bench, ploughed the fields, raised their voices in festival song or knelt humbly in prayer and supplication to the Great Father of all. From savages they were changed into gentle and kindly men and women. There was doubtless no spot on earth where life was more ideal than at the beautiful Mission San Jose. The land overflowed with plenty and hospitality was extended to stranger and friend alike. The cultivated estates of the Spaniards spread from the Mission over all the eastern shores of the bay and the prosperity and the present wealth of Alameda County is in no small part due to the settlement and influence of the Mission San Jose

The old church fell in 1868, but the cloister still remains and the order of Native Sons is doing a noble work in raising the money to restore and preserve it. With the state highway running along the foothills and splendid roads connecting therewith, thousands of tourists will be brought to the old Mission grounds when the work of restoration is completed; the titled roofs, the adobe walls, the pavements worn by the sandaled feet of the friars, the quaint old tombs within the graveyard where rests the dust of the Missionary, the early Spanish settler and the Indian, will appeal irresistably to the traveller while down through the years will come to him the voices of the past. The green hills, the fertile fields, the stately palms, the distant mountains and the glimmering bay still greet and charm as they did the Franciscan Friars a century ago.

Sunderer, Joseph

PROGRESS EDITION

PROMOTION SECTION

The Washington Press

Section One Pages 1 to 8

THE ALAMEDA COUNTY PRESS

VOLUME XXVII | NILES, ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1916 | NUMBER 27

California, Land of Opportunities

Alameda County, Pride Of California

Third in Wealth and Population Of This Great State

With Wonderful Opportunities for Homeseeker or Investor

By F. M. HARVEY.

The everlasting call for a change of environment, for glimpses of the new, for broader opportunities, that incentive which throughout the life time of the world has developed new countries and established new empires, has turned the minds and faces of very many of the world's people toward California, and here, probably more than in any other section of the planet, have those peoples found their Eutopia, found those things which make for [illegible] and happiness, [illegible] enjoyment of which has brought contentment and happiness and satisfaction to the extent that less of her people seek homes in other parts, than those of any other state, while there is attracted here a larger class whose circumstances permit their making homes where fancy calls than any other part of the country. Like many other sections the incentive which first attracted people to the state proved on settlement to be but one of the many advantages, and the goldseekers of the '50s soon became the agriculturalists, tradesmen, artisans, merchants or mariners whose efforts developed a state rich in very many ways. The second largest state of the Union, with a length of 720 miles and bredth of 250 there are within the borders of California more varieties of soil, climate and topography than in any other state, while its products range from cotton and the semi-tropical fruits to the grains and live stock of the colder sections. With vast fields of petroleum which place her among the heaviest producers, gold mines making her output of that metal the greatest, thousands of acres given to the cultivation of the vine and citrus fruits, great orchards of fruit and nuts, immense fields of grain, herds of cattle and sheep on interminable ranges and giant forests of timber, her wealth is truly incomprehensible.

On the west shores of this great state it has in San Francisco Bay, one of the greatest natural harbors of the world, from which goes out through its Golden Gate the commerce of the Nation to all parts of the world, flags of all countries being seen in its waters while its port clearings show destination to the ports of Europe, the Orient, Australia, and all parts of the world. Around this bay have been built up great cities whose peoples number upward of a million. Bordering the east side of this bay is the county of Alameda with its three large cities of Oakland, Berkeley and Alameda, offering wonderful advantages to the business or professional man, manufacturer or homeseeker, and its numerous smaller towns with their opportunities in every line. Of the larger cities they are among the fastest growing in the coutry, and with their contiguous boundaries are one in all but name and government, and contain a population of 300,000. With its commanding position on this great harbor and as the terminal of the great railroad lines to the north, east and south there passes through Oakland a variety of commerce found only in the greatest seaports of the world, and to the ocean carrying fleets, packing plants slaughtering beef, mutton and pork and curing these products, cotton mills, knitting plants and other textile factories turning out garments of all kinds, large chemical laboratories, paper products plants, and many others, and there is now being built a large factory by the Chevrolet Automobile Co. where will be assembled the Coast and Orient, and which will employ several hundred men. This plant cars of the company for the Pacific is but the forerunner of many similar establishments.

The city has excellent public buildings, its city hall and municipal auditorium being especially creditable. It has strong financial institutions and merchandise establishments carrying large and up-to-date stocks in all lines, and as a jobbing center has advantages over any city on the Pacific Coast. Its fine homes are famous and from the modest bungalow to the pretentious mansion there is an appearance of comfort and "hominess" which makes Oakland stand out as a home city.

Berkeley, a city of 60,000, lying immediately to the north of Oakland, is the seat of the University of California, the second largest university of the country, with an enrollment of 8,000 students. The high standing of this educational institution is universally recognized and its thorough equipment and large corps of instructors offers the young of California the benefit of the very best in an educational way. The University is a consolidated school, with an excellent agricultural department and in addition the state maintains at Davis a farm given over to experimental work. Berkeley is particularly a home city having attracted many by its advantages in that way, but along the bay there are springing up many manufacturing concerns which have excellent transportation facilities afforded by the various railroads centering here, and as there are considerable tracts still unoccupied there will no doubt be further expansion in this way.

The city of Alameda lies to the south of Oakland and is an island city, across an estuary, and connected by bridges with the main land. It is a city of large manufacturing industries and beautiful homes, the popular bungalow being so common as to there is offered there the advantage of transportation facilities, an adequate supply of labor, ample room and excellent sites, cheap power, under conditions of good government and low taxes, which make ideal conditions for a location for all kinds of industries. That these opportunities are being taken advantage of is evidenced by the large number of concerns already there and the many new ones constantly being added. Of these industries there are great canning factories of both fruit and vegetables which offer a market for many farms of the county, large foundries and machine shops with great outputs of castings, gas engines, pumps, and machinery, car shops turning out steel cars for its steam and street railways, shipbuilding plants constantly adding

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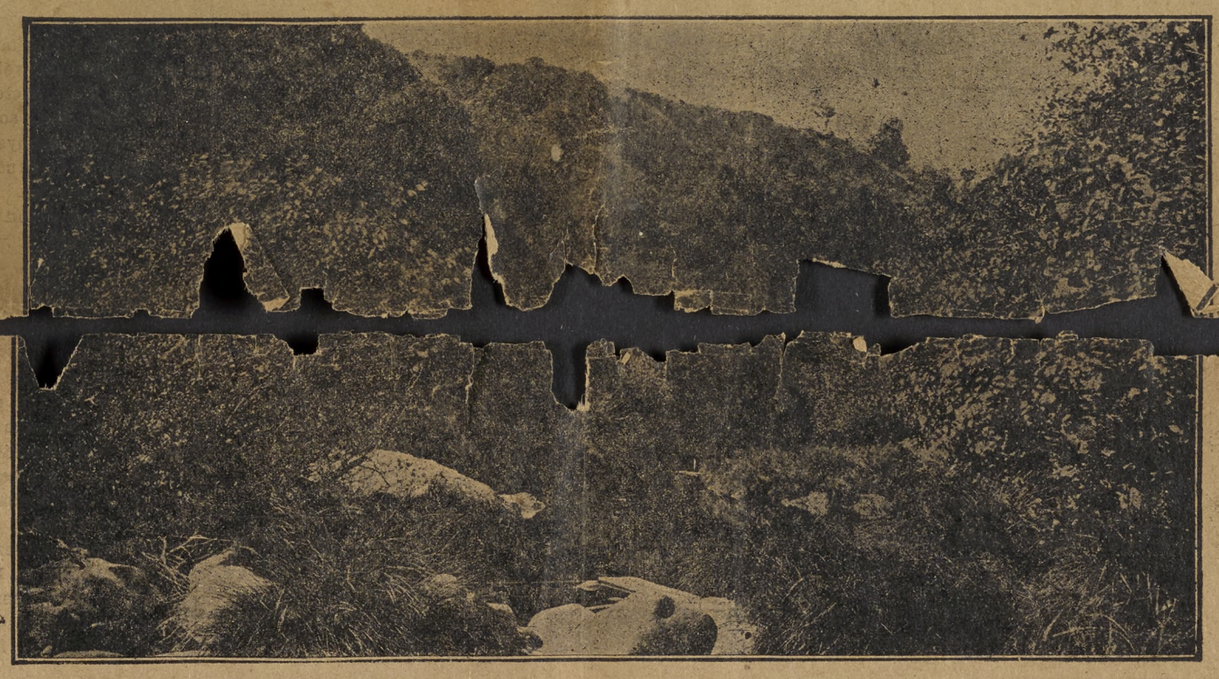
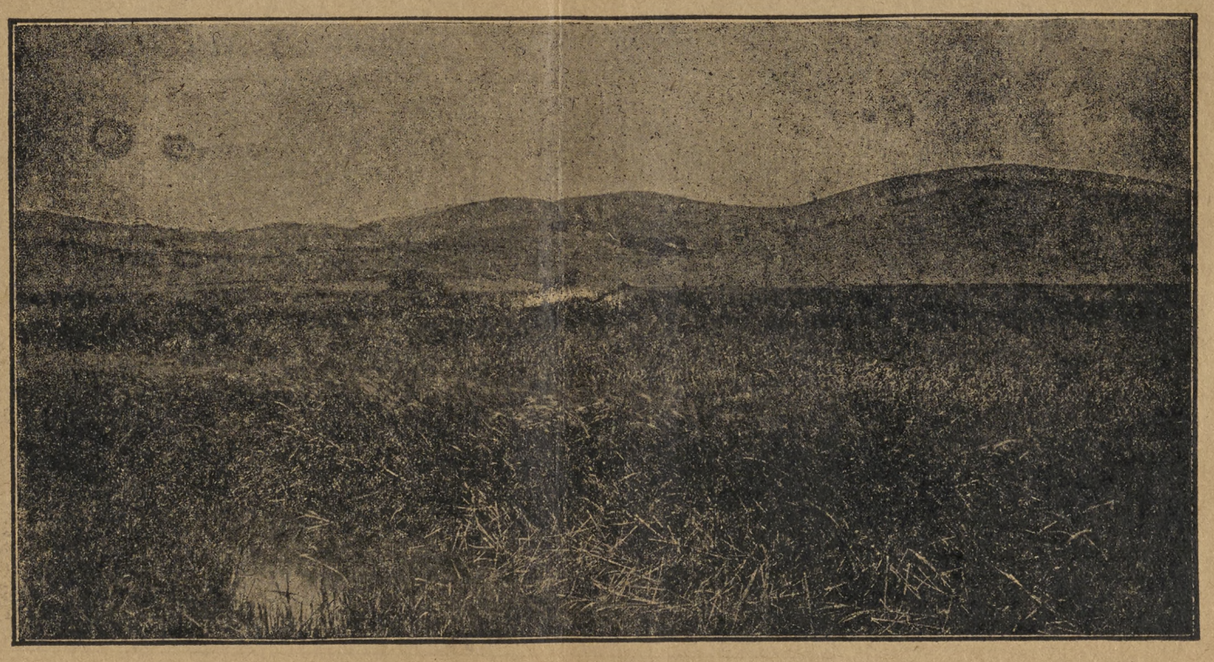


SCENES IN NILES CANYON

MAP OF ALAMEDA COUNTY



RURAL SCENES

Washington Township, County's Best Section

With its Oldest and Best Agricultural Development

Many Live Towns and Progressive People

By F. M. HARVEY

Lying on the east shores of San Francisco Bay, from which it extends to the abruptly rising, rugged hills on the north and east, and to Santa Clara county on the south, is found that part of Alameda county elsewhere described as the plain section, and which comprises the civic division known as Washington Township, that section in which The Press finds its particular field, and which it is the desire to adequately represent in this issue. Every matter regarding it as may appear to be of interest to the prospective homeseeker or invester, in the hopes that it may prove of mutual value to the people of the county and those who may be attracted by it. With its upwards of 100,000 acres of farming land the Township is the oldest and most highly developed agricultural section of the county, much of it having been divided into small farms, and there are found within its borders the towns of Alvarado, Centerville, Decoto, Irvington, Newark, Niles, Mission San Jose, and Warm Springs, each of which is treated particularly in another place. Coming to the country a stranger the writer will treat of it as it impresses an Easterner, with the sole object of presenting a truthful picture of conditions as he finds them, unembellished by the flowers of rhetoric or colored by the imagination of the dreamer.

The topography of the township shows a basin of valley land, in what is known as the Santa Clara Valley, lying almost level, and backed by hills rising to a height of 300 to 1200 feet, while Mission Peak, the sentinel of the valley and highest point in the county, rises 2500 feet.

Rich, Deep Soil.

The soil of this great valley is largely a silt, the result of the deposits of centuries through erosion from the hills and upper valleys, brought down by floods, and measures in depth 16 to 24 feet, very rich in the materials for production of all crops, and practically inexhaustible. Its composition varies in different parts of the Township and through that variation there is an equally wide variety of crops for which it is particularly adapted. In places there is rather heavy adobe soil which through years of cultivation has come to be reasonably easily worked, and that soil proves especially favorable for prunes, grapes, alfalfa and some other fruits. Such soil is usually underlaid by a clay subsoil which is a great moisture retainer, feeding the crops throughout the dry months of the summer and making irrigation unnecessary. At other places there is a chocolate loam, easily worked, with a gravel subsoil, the latter providing a water storage easily available for irrigation when that is desirable, and especially adapted for fruits such as apricot, almond, citrus fruits, and vegetables. At still other places this loam finds the variation of a slight constituent of sand, making a warm soil and fitting it for the most intensive cultivation. I have never visited a section of country with the capacity

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

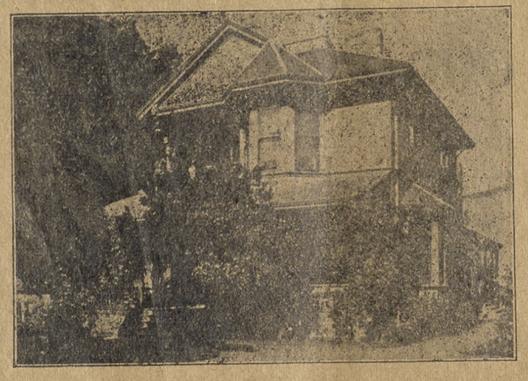
Niles, One of County's Best Towns

Surrounded by a Wonderfully Productive Country

And Populated by a Happy and Contented People

By F. M. HARVEY.

In the northern part of Washington Township, 29 miles from San Francisco and 22 from Oakland, the town of Niles occupies one of the most advantageous locations in the county and with its 1400 people holds an important place among the towns of the state. While it has several manufacturing concerns it depends very largely on the agricultural country tributary and its advantages as a home place convenient to the large bay cities. The country about Niles is of the lighter loam soil, with practically no adobe, and is under a high state of cultivation, fruit and vegetable growing predominating.



HOME OF E. A. ELLSWORTH

Apricots are the main fruit grown for market, with many prunes, almonds and some cherries while there are all the vegetables that are found in any part of the township. The acreage of fruit is on the increase and it is worthy of note that new orchards [illegible] from vegetable [illegible] until they come into bearing.

There is practically no waste land about Niles, the valley being very intensely cultivated and the hills given over to early vegetables, hay and stock range

Transportation

Located on two transcontinental lines, the Southern Pacific and Western Pacific, it is as much the unusually excellent transportation facilities afforded as any other one thing that has brought about the high prosperity and development of Niles and Washington Township, in fact it may be said the Southern Pacific railroad has been the making of the country.

Niles is the particularly important railroad point, for from here that system extends to all points of the compass, its main line from San Francisco and Oakland to Sacramento and the East, and Fresno and the South finding this an important station, while two branch lines extend to San Jose, and another via the Dumbarton bridge and Redwood City carries much of the overland freight to San Francisco, that being the only rail entrance to the city from the east. The excellent passenger service rendered does much to give Niles its advantage as a residence section for city workers, its "35 minutes from Niles to First and Broadway, Oakland," having come to be a slogan. Ten daily passenger trains to San Francisco, 14 from that city, five to and from Stockton and Sacramento, with connections to Fresno and the south, five to San Jose via Newark, and seven via Irvington, make a service unexcelled by any city in California. In addition there are numerous freights handling all merchandise shipments with dispatch. The principal shipments from this point are sand and gravel, of which there goes out 7,000 to 8,000 cars annually, nursery stock, vegetables, including early peas, potatoes, sweet corn, tomatoes, cucumbers, asparagus and rhubarb, and considerable fruit, both fresh and dried.

The company maintains its headquarters for the signal service here and also a switching crew for handling the yard work, as well as two section crews, and its business office is open night and day, giving a large payroll at this point.

Good trackage facilities are available for large industries and the company has abundant warehouse room and encourages the location of industries through liberal terms for the use of its accommodations. A convenient passenger station and large freight depot care for the local business, and the station grounds are made attractive by many plants and flowers. A. J. Rutherford is agent for the company here, and is an old employe, popular with the patrons and has done much to bring about the hearty good feeling of the people of the community toward the S. P.

The Western Pacific operates two passenger trains daily in each direction on its main line, San Francisco to Salt Lake, and local freights handling its shipments which are largely nursery stock, fruits and vegetables, while its incoming trains bring merchandise, coal and lumber. The company is planning extensive new construction of branch lines in the state, and probably its first one will be a line from Niles to San Jose and on down the Pacific coast, for which the survey is made and part of the right of way bought.

The American Express Co. operates on the line and furnishes excellent facilities for all kinds of shipments, especially for the east.

G. A. Pullen has been agent for the company here two years and is a courteous gentleman who bears the high regard of its patrons.

In addition to these firstclass railroad facilities four auto bus lines operate through Niles between Oakland, Stockton and San Jose giving frequent quick service day and night to those points at very reasonable rates and affording a most pleasant ride over the state highway, and a comprehensive view of the beautiful scenery of this section.

The state highway from Oakland to San Jose passes through Niles, and it is a favorite stopping place for autoists attracted by the fine road and the town's excellent hotels. From the main highway a scenic trip through Niles Canyon is one of the most beautiful in the state, and throughout the canyon is a favorite place for picnickers in the summer time. There too a pleasure resort, Fernbrook Park, two miles from Niles, attracts many people throughout the season.

The water supply of the town is provided by the Citizens Water Co and is of the purest, being from deep wells with both storage tank and direct pressure, and its mains extend to all parts of the city. The ideal climate and pure water do their share toward making Niles a most healthy city, entirely free of malaria, with no typhoid or diphtheria, and not an epidemic of any kind in over 25 years. The conditions are particularly favorable for relief from asthma and hay fever is unknown.

Telephone service is provided by the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co, with lines to all parts of the surrounding country and long distance connections reaching every part. The local exchange has a large list of subscribers and is managed by Mr. M. B. Sneden.

Light and power is furnished by the Pacific Gas and Electric Co., the big utility company of the Coast, with several hydro-electric plants in the mountains and distributing its "juice" to the many cities throughout the bay district. The service is universally dependable and provided at reasonable rates.

The Union Gas Co. has a plant installed and pipes laid in the business section of the town, from which it is prepared to furnish gas to consumers for either light or cooking.

Fire protection is provided through a volunteer fire company equipped with two hose carts and hook and ladder wagon, with 600 feet of hose. There are 16 fire hydrants and with direct pumping a pressure of 100 pounds is attained, and no serious fire has ever occurred. A two-story building cares for the fire fighting equipment and furnishes a meeting place for the Chamber of Commerce, fire commissioners and other bodies. The present fire commissioners are J. B. Bernard and R. Robinson, both progressive citizens who are energetic in the town's interest.

Chamber of Commerce.

The leading civic body of the town is the Chamber of Commerce, organized ten years ago and numbering half a hundred members among the leading business men and other residents.

The Chamber has been very active in the promotion of public affairs for the advancement of the community, doing its share to secure the state highway through the city, the present efficient water system, good light and telephone service, many highway improvements and safety protections, better railroad transportation facilities, a sanitary district; was instrumental in the location here of the big plant of the Essanay Film Manufacturing Co. and other industries, and is ever ready with the backing of its enthusiastic membership to promote any enterprise looking to a better Niles. Its officers are, M. B. Sneden, president; Horace J. Craft, vice president; P. A. Ellis, secretary; and C. M. Laws, treasurer. Either of these gentlemen will be very glad to give any assistance or information to inquirers who may be interested in the town or country in any way.

School.

The Niles grammar school is one of the best in the county and is the pride of the people of the district. It employs eight teachers, the present corps being, C. R. Vorheis, principal, 8th grade; Miss Estella M. Smith, 6th and 7th; Miss Evalyn L. Garcia, 5th and 6th; Miss Stella L. Gordon, 3rd and 4th; Miss Mae G. Borges, 2nd; Miss Helen S. Baldwin, 1st; Miss Mary Barnard, music; and Miss Barbara J. Smith, ward school. All these teachers are graduates of the San Jose state normal school and of a high class. Principal Vorheis is serving his second year, coming here from Morgan Hill. He has been engaged in school work in California for twelve years and attained a reputation as a competent instructor and school man, a fact well appreciated by the patrons of the school. The regular courses of the eight grades are carried and in addition music by a special teacher is taught in all the grades, and manual training and domestic economy receive due attention. Athletics receives considerable attention, baseball being the principal sport, carried on with other schools in the township. There is a large amount of playground equipment, comprising swings, slides, seesaws, etc. The school building was erected in 1912 at a cost of $25,000, is of the Mission style of architecture, and a most creditable building. Besides the usual class rooms it has an auditoreum seating 250, with stage and scenery, business office, manual training room equipped with 16 individual benches, tools, etc.; domestic economy rooms with sewing machines and tables, inside lavatories and toilets with a septic tank sewer system, and all modern sanitary appliances. There is an independent telephone system connecting each teacher with the principal's office, and every convenience for attaining the best results in the school work. Patrons of the school are ever ready to aid its efforts and are assisted by a most competent board of trustees composed of Mrs. C. B. Overacker, clerk, Dr. C. L. McKown and O. E. Walpert, who do all in their power to advance the school's interest wherever possible. The grounds comprise four acres, have a beautiful lawn with plants and flowers, and the building is one of the best cared for to be found any place, that work being done by Mr. J. P. Cahill, janitor, than whom there is none better.

A Boys' agricultural club does considerable work in agriculture under the direction of the county farm adviser and attracts enthusiastic interest of many pupils. Last year it engaged in the corn growing contest, and this year is raising potatoes.

Auxiliary to the school is the Parent Teachers Association which has 40 members and meets the second Friday evening of each month, with Mrs. Philip Oakeshott, president, and C. R. Evans, secretary. This organization is of recent formation and designed to work with the teachers for the betterment of the schools, to bring teachers and parents into closer relations in the promotion of their work, and create a civic center about the school as well as to provide social attractions. The association was instrumental in sending the children to the P. P. I. Exposition, and has many plans for the future.

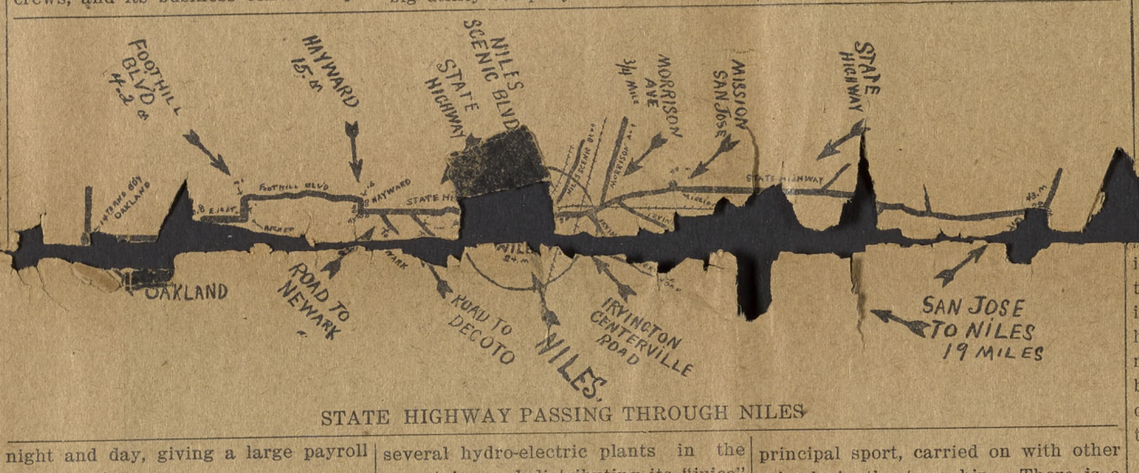
Churches.

Corpus Christi Catholic church has been one of the most active and important societies of the township for 25 years, its communicants numbering 125 families and its activities extending to all the various branches of church work. A well attended Sunday school is conducted by the Dominican Sisters and sodalities of the young ladies and boys are active. The young Ladies Institute Branch, Miss Zalmera Dominish, president, does much in a social and benevolent way. The society has a very fine church building which is commodious and beautifully appointed, while the priest's home a new modern [illegible] is one of the finest residences in town. Rev. John A. Leal has been its pastor for the past year, coming here from Newman. He is a young man of very fine attainments and has become very popular with the people of the entire community, as well as the congregation.

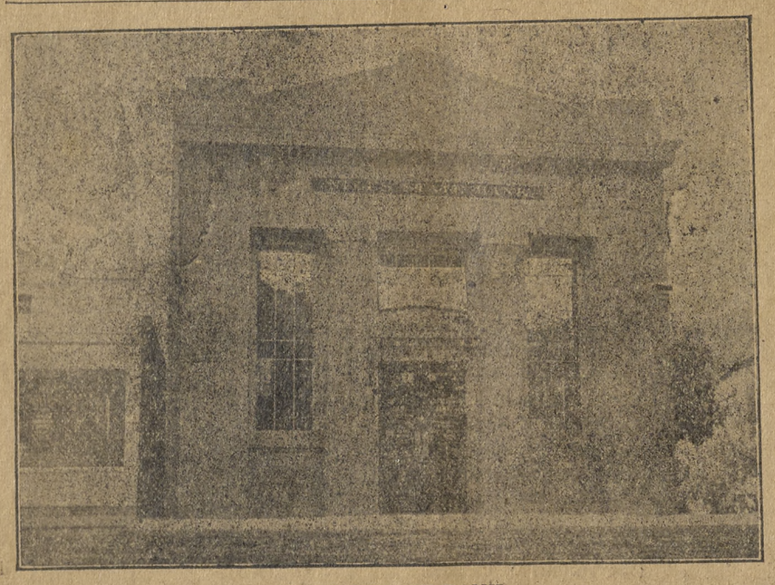
The Congregational Church was organized in Niles in 1889 and has been served by five pastors, Rev. F. H. Maar, its first pastor, who officiated eight years, Rev. E. D. Hale, eight years, Rev. F. V. Jones, nine years, Rev. R. G. Harbudd, one year, and its present pastor, Rev. C. L. Hyde, who has been here one year, coming from San Jose, and who is very popular with his congregation and the people of the community generally. The church has 55 members and a large following of non-members who attend its regular services every Sunday morning and evening. A Sunday school with an enrollment of 88 and with Rev. Hyde, superintendent, and a Christian Endeavor Society of 16 members with Mrs. C. R. Evans, superintendent, are important auxiliaries, while a Ladies Guild, Mrs. C. B. Overacker, president, has 50 members, meets every two weeks and is very active in promotion of church work, its annual bazaar being an important event. A Men's League meets monthly with J. C. Shinn president, and has a quarterly banquet and business meeting at which it is favored with good speakers. The League has arranged for the opening of the library as a reading room on Sunday afternoons, and is interested in other work for the advancement of the community. The church building is of brick, built in 1911 at a cost of $18-000, is commodious and convenient, has large auditorium, Sunday school and class rooms, kitchen and Guild rooms, gymnasium, lockers, baths, and pastor's study, and in fact is thoroughly modern throughout and a credit to the congregation and the town.

The Episcopal society has had a number of communicants here for many years and maintained a mission, now served by Rev. Bayard H. Jones of Centerville, and holding services twice each month. A Ladies Guild of which Mrs. Clara Martinstein is president, and Mrs. Eton Meyers, secretary, is active in the affairs of the parish and has a substantial Guild Hall which is fitted for worship.

AMES MANUFACTURING CO.



STATE HIGHWAY PASSING THROUGH NILES



NILES STA TE BANK

Library.

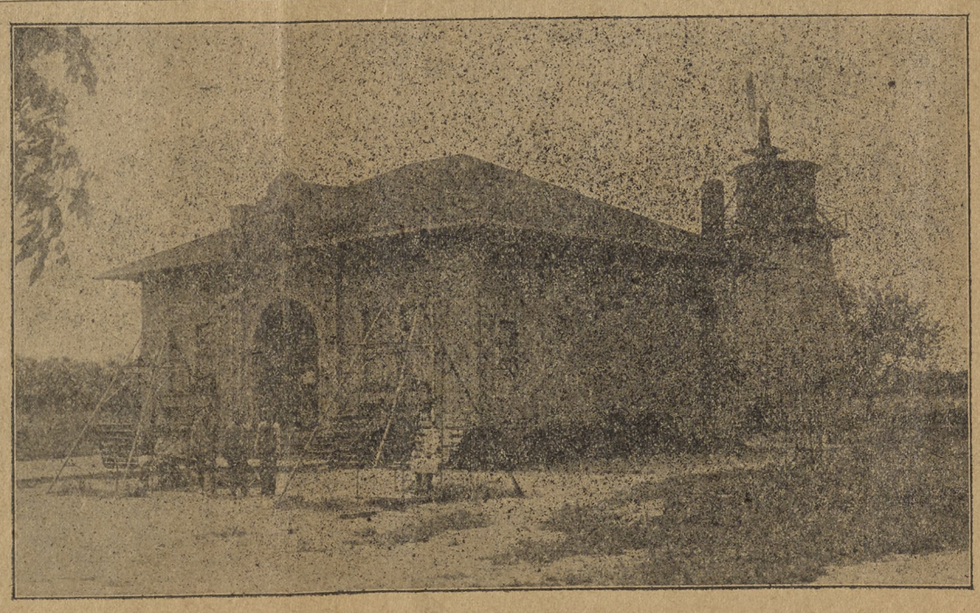
The Niles branch of the county library has 1600 volumes and is open every afternoon and evening except Friday, and Sunday evenings. A local board composed of M. B. Sneden, J. C. Shinn, Geo. L. Donovan, Mrs. E. L. Chittenden and W. H. Ford has charge of the institution and has done much to bring about its success. Mrs. E. M. Nichols is librarian and very popular with patrons for her accommodating and agreeable ways. The library has reference, fiction, and scientific work on its shelves as well as the latest magazines and daily papers, and enjoys a constantly increasing patronage by both the local people and transients who appreciate its advantages.

FRONT STREET, NILES

Fraternal Societies.

Niles has always encouraged its fraternal societies and there are represented here of the best. Niles Lodge No. 382 I. O. O. F. is one of the oldest, having been organized in 1892, has 42 members, and meets every Monday night, with W. O. Ford, N. G., and P. A. Ellis, secretary. The lodge owns a fine property at Front and J. streets, 50x100 feet, in which are business places and its well furnished lodge rooms, with paraphernalia, banquet, kitchen and ante-rooms, and making a most comfortable lodge home. The lodge is very active and holds a high place in its grand body. Rebekah Lodge No. 386 has been organized three years, has 29 members meets the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month and is an important auxiliary in the Odd Fellows work. Its officers are, Mrs. M. L. Fournier, N. G., and Mrs. C. E. Fournier, secretary.

Niles Court No. 110 Foresters of America meets the 1st and 3rd Wed-



WARD SCHOOL, NILES

nesdays of each month, has 20 members and P. A. Ellis is secretary.

The Woodmen of the World has been represented here since 1907 when Old Mill Camp No. 220 was organized. It has 82 members and meets the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month at I. O. O. F. hall, R. B. Richmond, C. C., and I. Richards, Clerk. Hazel Circle No. 598 Women of Woodcraft was instituted in 1904 and has 88 members meeting the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays with Mrs. Ida Easterday, G. N., and Mrs. Sarah Crane, Clerk. Both these orders are particularly strong in the fraternal spirit and do much in a charitable way among their neighbors. They have fine working teams and take great pride in their accomplishments.

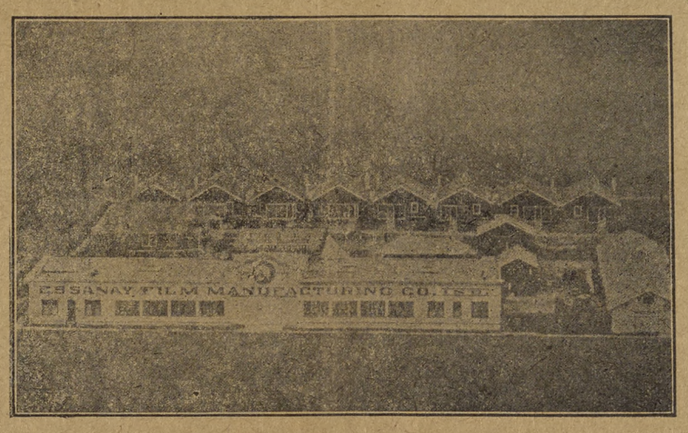
Niles Parlor No. 250 of the Native Sons of the Golden West is 8 years old, has 40 members, and meets the last Thursday of the month, Milton Fournier being president and C. Martinstein, secretary. The parlor has been quite active in the promotion of favorable conditions, and the town is well worth the consideration of all interested in such a location.

The Victory Engine Co is a new industry recently located here which promises to develop into an important business. The company manufactures gas engines and tractors, having been previously established at San Jose, and expects to operate a large force of men here.

The Niles Canyon Rock Products Co., of which A. C. F. Locke is manager, is installing a large plant for handling sand and gravel, on the bank of Alameda Creek east of town and expects to be in operation in a few weeks. It will have a large capacity and will find its market over a large territory.

Representative Business Men.

There is a high class of business men represented in the town, many of whom are mentioned in these pages and who are representative of all. As there will be found much of interest regarding conditions here in these individual mentions they should be read with the same care which is given to the other matter in the paper.



ESSANAY FILM MANUFACTURING CO.

the Mission San Jose restoration and has done its share with others in that commendable work. Laura Loma Parlor No. 182, N. D. G. W. is an active auxiliary organized in 1910, and meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, has 24 members, Mrs. E. L. Scott president, and Mrs. Elizabeth Tyson secretary. This parlor, too, has been active in restoration work and has much to its credit in that connection.

I. D. E. S. No. 75 has been organized 14 years and numbers 55 members, meeting in the afternoon of the 2nd Sunday of each month. M. J. Silva is president and district deputy and Joe Medeiros secretary. U. P. E. C. No. 134 with 20 members is one year old and meets at the same time and with the same officers as the I. D. E. S. Both these societies, which had their birthplace in the county, are strong fraternal insurance orders and have accomplished much good. The S. P. R. S. I. has been in existence since 1908 and meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. It has about 50 members and Rosa S. Nunes is president and Filomena O. Garcia, secretary.

Newspaper Representation.

The town is well represented by two newspapers, The Washington Press, C. R. Evans, editor, which has a large circulation throughout the township, covers its news thoroughly, and in addition maintains a good job printing plant. The Township Register also circulates over the township and is well regarded.

A City of Homes.

Niles' advantages as a home city are so many and so evident that home-seekers are attracted from all this part of the state, and especially does it appeal to the worker of the bay cities, with its "35 minutes to First and Broadway, Oakland," and its commuting rate of but 27 1-2 cents per round trip. With these favorable accommodations and frequent train service it is no wonder the city worker delights in the opportunity to enjoy the comforts of the country, when it can be done under such favorable conditions. There are many fine homes here with every comfort of life and they are peopled by as fine a lot of men and women as one will find any place on earth.

Manufacturing Industries.

The railroad advantages, and other considerations have attracted several manufacturing industries to Niles and there is every reason to expect that more of such industries will come in the future. There are now the great plant of the Essanay Film Manufacturing Co., one of the largest concerns in its line; the California Nursery Co., largest nursery in the world; California Brick Co., making a high grade of paving brick; Ames Pump Co., manufacturing deep well pumps which are shipped to all parts of the world; Niles Sand and Gravel Co., handling a high grade of washed sand and gravel and shipping 8,000 cars per year; and numerous fruit drying and packing plants. There are opportunities for many other manufacturing industries here, where they can operate under favorable conditions, and the town is well worth the consideration of all interested in such a location.

THE NILES WOMAN'S CLUB.

After California gave the franchise to women in 1912, there was a general awakening among the newly made citizens throughout the state, as to how they could educate themselves along political lines, and that awakening touched Niles. Groups of women got together and decided they must have a Woman's Club, where they could study the many issues, which would be brought before them. In February, 1913, a preliminary meeting was held at the home of Mrs. E. P. Mayhew, and [illegible] the Club was officially organized, a constitution and by laws adopted, the name Niles Woman's Clud selected, and permanent officers elected, Mrs. J. E. Thane, president, and Mrs. C. B. Overacker, secretary, these two having held the offices continually up to the present time. Eighteen charter members signed the constitution, while the present enrollment is thirty. The Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at the homes of the members.

Current events and music are an interesting part of each program. The first year the Club took up as a major study, the history of our sister republic, Mexico, with papers by the members on American Colonial Government. The laws before legislature pertaining to Women and Children, municipal water and many other subjects of like interest. Several social meetings have been held, where the friends of the Club were hospitably entertained. A joint Washington and Lincoln meeting was held at Bell Theater. The Memorial Day meeting was addressed by Mr. Geo. W. Frick and Mr. A. A. Dennison. The Annual All-day meeting held the second Thursday in September after the two months' vacation, is always an enjoyable Club event.

It is the hope of all the members that the Club may have a long life of usefulness, and its influence may always be for the betterment of the community.

SOME NILES BUSINESS CONCERNS

Kites Korner

Washington Township has no more popular resort for the lover of a pleasant hour of recreation or refreshment than "Kite's Korner," opposite the "Lonesome Pine," where "Kite" and "Billy" operate well conducted establishments with that high service which makes for popularity and brings to them a large patronage and high regard of many friends.

R. Robinson, "Kite," has been engaged in business here two years, having previously been an employe of the Essanay company, and conducts a first class establishment, carrying a complete stock of smokers' articles, cigars, tobaccos, pipes, etc., and his "cigar lighters" and "korn kob pipes" are famous. He also operates an up-to-date pool and billiard parlor, maintaining four well kept tables where lovers of the ivory games find every facility for their amusement.

Wm. Moore, "Billy," is an old resident here and has for ten years conducted his present business where he carries a full line of wines and liquors, making a specialty of Yellowstone whiskey and Golden West beer, both brands well known here and with established reputations for high quality. Mr. Moore's place is conducted in a manner to attract to it the best class of trade and give it a high standing in the community. Both gentlemen are public spirited citizens always ready to do for the advancement of Niles, and with many friends among all classes.

Niles Hotel.

This well known business institution has been a leading one of Niles for several years, during which time it has gained an enviable reputation and holds the high esteem of a large number of patrons. The proprietors, Mr. C. M. Laws and Mr. J. P. Murphy, have a large acquaintance, Mr. Murphy being one of the oldest settlers of the place, formerly in the brick and concrete contracting business, during which time he did much of the construction work of this section, and three years ago he engaged in his present business. A year ago he was joined in it by Mr. Laws, a former railorad man who came here ten years ago on the Western Pacific construction work, and during his residence here has made many friends.

The hotel is well conducted, modern and has 32 rooms which are well furnished and cared for. The house is operated on the American plan and its dining room provides the best of meals catering to both transient and regular trade, of which its uniformly satisfactory service attracts a considerable patronage. As a feature of the house a training quarters is maintained for wrestling and boxing, and the firm does much to encourage that sport in the community.

In connection a first class bar is conducted, handling the best of wines and liquors and making a specialty of Mascot whiskies, a brand well known for its superior quality. Both Messrs. Laws and Murphy are good town promoters and popular with their trade.

AUTO BUS SERVICE

The call for frequent transportation service from Washington township towns to Oakland and intermediate places has been met by the installation of a first class auto bus service between Centerville and Oakland by Mr. J. B. Clark, who has operated such a line since last November and given a service which has attracted a considerable patronage. By his schedule he leaves Centerville for Oakland at 8:15 and 11:40 a. m. and 4 p. m., and Niles ten minutes later, the run to Oakland being made in an hour and ten minutes. Car leaves Oakland, 12th and Washington streets, at 10 a. m. and 1:50 and 6 p. m.

Mr. Clark is an experienced auto machinist who looks carefully after the comfort of his patrons and gives a satisfactory service which has made him many friends.

Headquarters at Centerville are at F. T. Hawes' store and at Niles at the Wesley Hotel.

SUPERVISOR D J MURPHY A GOOD MANAGER

Efficient management and supervision are important factors in the success of any business, and are no less potent factors in the progress of a community.

Washington Township has made much headway along the road of progress in the past two years, and much credit is due to Supervisor D. J. Murphy chairman of the Board of Supervisors for the splendid manner in which he has watched over the welfare of this community and guarded its interests during the time he has been in office.

Not once, but many times has he thwarted schemes to "put something over" for the benefit of some individual and at the taxpayers' expense.

On the other hand Mr. Murphy has ever been willing to listen to those who proposed some action that would benefit the community at large.

The Supervisor has made some powerful enemies by his public spirited actions and right now a movement is under way to "get him," but the people of this township are not ungrateful and it is certain that when election day rolls around next November that D. J. Murphy will receive proof of their appreciation by the huge vote they will cast to send him back to serve them once more.

Washington Township

(Continued from Page 1)

of this for storing its water for crop production, and yet leaving the ground in excellent condition for cultivation soon after the rains, and its roads and fields free of mud.

Ideal Climate

As one visits the various parts of the Township he marvels at the great variety of products found, and the question of how it is possible is met by the almost universal answer, "Why, it is the climate." And as he learns of the climate he marvels too, at that There has been so much written of the climate of California that with many Easterners it has come to be almost a joke, voiced in the expression that "all California has to sell is climate." But when the Easterner visits the state and really gets a touch of the climate the joke passes, and he realizes that if that were really all, it would be worth it. Ideal climate is more sought after than any other one condition, and that California reaches the ideal is in no way better shown than that more people who can afford to live any place they choose come to California than go to any other state. And of all the state no section has a more ideal climate than Washington Township, a year round climate that has its attractive features every month. Summer temperatures range from 58 to 76 degrees, and when in an extreme the thermometer registers 80 degrees it is considered unusually hot, while the nights are always cool, giving refreshing rest and sleep. In winter 45 to 75 degrees is the usual register. Some frosts come to the low lands, but seldom cold enough to even freeze thin ice, and many years flowers and plants continue their growth through the winter. This very equable climate really makes but two seasons, and it almost seems but one, for the fields planted in December to peas, sweet corn and potatoes make their growth through the winter months and find their product on the market in April and May. The years

C. W RUBEL, FARM ADVISOR.

show an average of but about 100 cloudy days of the 365, and this condition makes it particularly favorable for the manufacture of moving pictures, a fact which attracted to Niles the large plant of the Essanay company, and is causing consideration of the removal of many other plants to this section.

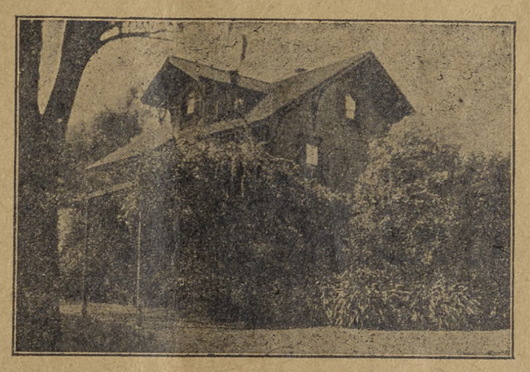
Attracts Many Tourists.

The attraction of its excellent climate brings many tourists to this section and for them there is a further fascination in the wonderful scenery to be found about here, from the wonders of the greatest inland harbor of the world to the rugged grandeur of the canyons and glens, of the hills and mountain section.

Excellent Roads.

To make possible an appreciation of these beauties and wonders of nature there are well constructed roads and drives by which one can spend a day in a fast automobile in the township without exhausting its beauties, riding through lanes of giant eucalyptus, palms, and pines, with the olive, orange, lemon, fig and ohter semi-tropical fruits and flowers, view one of the oldest of the early California missions, many magnificent homes with their beautiful grounds, and may through the Niles canyon with its towering walls and purling streams observe the wonders of nature as but few places provide. With these attractions it is little wonder that thousands come every year, and with the restoration of Mission San Jose and the constant increase of good roads these numbers will increase.

Rains in this section begin usually in November and continue to April, January showing the heaviest fall, with practically none during the summer months. The average annual rainfall



RESIDENCE OF J. C. SHINN

is about 22 inches, which is augmented however through the summer by heavy dews. At some seasons fogs from the bay are frequent, but not of a degree to be particularly objectionable, and in some sections of the Township are even rare. During the months of heavy rains considerable water from the large territory drained by the Alameda Creek and its trributaries passes through the Township to its outlet in San Francisco Bay and much of it finds its way to the gravel reservoir under the surface, wnere it is easily found at a depth of 20 to 40 feet. Almost every farm in the valley has its mill, tank and pumping plant, making possible irrigation for gardens, alfalfa and other crops should they need it during the dry season. To conserve this water the Alameda County Water District, embracing a considerable part of the Township, has been formed and its directors are active in conservation work. The Spring Valley Water Co., the corporation supplying the city of San Francisco, finds its supply in the mountains at the head waters of the Calaveras, a tributary of the Alameda, where it has a large reservoir, and in the gravel beds at Sunol and Pleasanton, and its supply pipes traverse the Township, crossing the bay west of Newark.

Wonderful Agricultural Section.

Agriculturally the Township is a wonder, and the variety of its products marvelous, for there are grown here the whole range of farm crops, fruits and vegetables, such as are found from the Gulf of Mexico to the Canadian line, cane and cotton being almost the only exceptions.

The farms vary from the small tracts of 5 to 10 acres, of which there are many, to larger places of several hundred, though the latter are usually occupied by several tenants. From the first settlement of the Township, over 60 years ago, fruit has been an important product, but there has been a new impetus in recent years and many new orchards are being set out or just coming in bearing. Of these there are found apricots, cherries, prunes, pears, apples, oranges, lemons, olives, almonds and walnuts, all of which grow to perfection, and are profitable in a commercial way. The acreage of apricots and prunes is larger than of any other fruit and these carry with them the industry of the drier, they finding their largest market in that way. There is coming a realization of great opportunities in the growing of lemons, which in the past have generally been grown only in a small way, and many trees are being put out with the promise of proving very profitable. Oranges are found on almost every farm and when grown commercially have done well, the old Mayhew orchards being an example. Cherries are rapidly gaining in favor and many orchardists look upon them as promising the best returns. Almonds have been grown for 25 years, there being many large orchards, and though seasons and price vary they bring good average returns. All small fruits do well, especially grapes and strawberries there being many large tracts devoted to the former, and wineries in which they are pressed, while the adaptability of the latter is evidenced by the fact that there is here the largest strawberry farm in the state, from which the fruit is marketed almost the year round. The fact that there is here the largest nursery in the world also speaks much for it as a natural fruit country.

Grain farming is carried on in many sections, barley, oats, alfalfa and hay being the principal products. There are 7,000 to 8,000 acres of sugar beets grown in the township, finding their market at the Alameda Sugar Co. factory at Alvarado. They are high in sugar content and the price paid here is among the highest in the country. Vegetables run a close second to fruit in the value of their production, and it is from this section that the earliest vegetables found in the city markets come, while market gardeners are gathering from their fields every day in the year. On the hillsides about Niles and Decoto is the most remarkable gardening condition I ever found. There on hills so steep that they would be thought impossible of cultivation in any other country men, working with side-hill plows having reversible shears, plant peas, sweet corn and potatoes in December, and as these lands are above the frost line, market crops in April and May for which they obtain fabulous prices. On bottom lands are grown great fields of tomatoes which owing to the long season produce immense yields bringing $7 to $8 per ton at the canneries. There are hundreds of acres of garlic, than which there is nothing more profitable, $400 to $800 worth being produced on an acre. Cauliflower on one farm turns off 25 to 30 carloads per year. Beans, asparagus, onions, beets, carrots and in fact every garden vegetable grows so prolific that providing the table is a simple matter in Washington Township, while that same ease offers profits to the farmer by marketing his surplus.

Dairying a Growing Industry.

Dairying is a rapidly growing industry in the Township, especially about Irvington and Newark, further mention of which will be found on the pages devoted to those towns, and among the hills to the north and east many cattle are ranged. Grass on this range cures on the ground and there is but a very short season of the year in which yard feeding is necessary. The high class of horses found on the farms at once attracts the attention of the stranger, and is an evidence of the attention given to breeding and care. Poultry does very well and every farm has its quota, but not many have engaged in the industry as a business though it offers great opportunity.

Farm Bureau Active

Alameda County has a well organized farm bureau and in that way has been able to secure for the county the services of a representative of the United States Department of Agriculture and the state experiment station. This man is known as a farm adviser, and it is his duty to study the agricultural problems of the county and give advice to any farmer desiring his help. Meetings are held once a month at various places known as farm bureau centers at which time farmers can come together and discuss their problems, and generally have a talk either by the farm adviser

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

DRIVE IN CALIFORNIA NURSERY

The beauties of Santa Clara Valley combined with the natural sites throughout the hills and canyons furnish wonderful opportunities for the location of resort hotels, for the accommodations of which there is a constant demand. In many cases such establishments could be located near mineral springs constantly flowing, and as sanitariums or hotels would be assured of a large patronage.

Centerville, a Town with a Promising Future

Good Schools, Churches and Societies are Numerous

A Town Notable for its Many Fine Homes

Situated near the geographical center of the township the town of Centerville, with its population of 1400, has since the first settlement been one of the county's leading towns and there is about it some of the best agricultural land of the state, producing fruit and vegetables in abundance. The soil hereabouts bears all the characteristics of the township, the various soil constituents of the foothills and of the valley being found in the tributary country. Its fruit products are largely apricots and cherries, the former having been grown for 40 years and pronounced by buyers to be the best in the state, while the cherries have been planted in later years and are proving among the most profitable crops. Vegetables of all kinds grow abundantly and constitute a large part of the shipments twelve to fifteen cars of tomatoes going out to the canneries daily during the season from August to November. There are tributary to town 200 acres devoted to raising garlic which is shipped in carloads to the New York and Boston markets. Sugar beets are grown extensively, 250 cars being shipped to the Alvarado factory the past season. The wonderful adaptibility of this section for growing fruit and vegetables makes it an excellent location for a cannery and for that purpose there is available a convenient site 275 by 800 feet facing the railroad right of way where trackage is easily obtainable. Land prices range from $400 to $700 per acre, while bearing orchards range from $500 to $1000 per acre, tracts ranging from five to fifteen acres.

The town has excellent local improvements, well kept streets, and a park of one acre in the center of the town in which a band stand has been erected, shrubbery and trees planted, benches and tables provided, and a drinking fountain, the latter through the Chamber of Commerce and a donation by M. S. Pierce. Fire protection is afforded by a volunteer company, equipped with hose carts, and ladders, 700 feet of hose, and hydrants on the main pipe of the Spring Valley Water Company furnish an abundant supply of water. The Centerville Water Co also furnishes water for the town, its mains extending to all parts.

The Centerville band, of which A. Clark is leader and A. E. Silva is manager, has been a strong organization for ten years and provides music of a high standard for occasions throughout the township.

The Centerville Chamber of Commerce has been in existence for six years and has done much for the advancement of the community interests, among its accomplishments having been the promotion of street lighting, the acquiring of the city park and its improvement, good road work and the opening of a road along the railroad right of way through the town, $30 donated to the improvement of the grammar school athletic field, keeping sidewalks cleaned and many other things. The Chamber has fifty members and meets the first Monday night of each month in the Stevenson Building with the following officers: F. T. Hawes, president, P. C. Hansen, vice president, M. H. Lewis, secretary, F. T. Dusterberry, treasurer, and J. B. Fair, master at arms. The dues of the Chamber are but 25 cents per month.

The town is on the Redwood City cut-off of the Southern Pacific railroad and has four passenger trains daily to Oakland and San Jose, as well as freight service amply caring for the large shipments of vegetables, sugar beets and dried and fresh fruits. Jud Wilson, agent, has been here four years, and is a most accommodating gentleman and there exists a very cordial feeling between the company and the people of the community. Dairying is a growing industry in the section, fifty cans of milk going out daily.

The town has the best school facilities of the township, being the seat of the Union High School as well as an excellent grammar school. The latter employing five teachers, Joseph Dias, principal, 8th and 5th grades; Adelia H. Rogers, 6th and 7th; H. Aloyce Sinnott, 4th; Mary H. Lynch 2nd and 3rd, and Anna F. Vargas, 1st. All are normal school graduates and teachers of excellent standing. Prof. Dias has been in the school 18 years is also vice president of the Bank of Centerville, president of the Washington Township Principals' Club, and a practicing attorney. The school enrolls 200 pupils of whom its records show that 80 per cent graduate, and 30 per cent of these enter the high school. Besides the usual courses of the eight grades much attention is given manual training and domestic science, and for these there are well equipped departments. The school building was erected in 1913 at a cost of $20,000, and is a handsome and well furnished building, with a large auditorium, a stereopticon outfit, and all modern appliances. Considerable attention is given to athletics, baseball and basketball, and the grounds are provided with full playground equipment. The school board is composed of F. T. Dusterberry, clerk, John G. Mattos, Jr., and M. Oliveira, leading citizens of the community, who take a great interest in the promotion of the school's affairs, and there is a strong feeling of pride and loyalty to it on the part of all

Church societies are strong in Centerville and do their full share to promote the better life and growth of the town and country. Holy Ghost Catholic church has been established 36 years and enrolled among its members three fourths of the families of the section. At its head is Rev. A. M. Sousa, who has been here 2½ years, coming from Sonoma county, and takes an active part in all the societies of the church and community, and is very popular with his people. He is assisted by Rev. S. F. Barron, a graduate of St. Patrick's Seminary at Menlo Park, who has been here eight months, and is also very popular. The Young Ladies Society of which Mariana Mattos is president, has 100 members and is very active in the work of the church, meeting the fourth Sunday of each month, and promoting many social affairs. The Young Men's Sodality, Alfred Gomez, president, meets every 3d Thursday evening and is active in athletics, and will have a baseball team representing the town the coming season. An Altar Society, League of the Scred Heart, and a choir of 20 young ladies, with Miss Mamie Norris organist and director, also do good work. A dramatic society has been organized and will present "The Toastmaster" after Lent. The Ladies Society looks after the maintenance of the well kept cemetery. The church building is the largest in the township and well provided in every way, and Holy Ghost Hall is a new building erected last fall and used for social gatherings. A fine priest's home is also a feature of the excellent church property.

The Episcopal church society of Centerville will next year celebrate its 50th anniversary, having been organized as a mission in 1867. Regular services are held every Sunday and its Sunday school enrolls 60 pupils, while the church rolls show 50 communicants. This mission is one of the oldest in the diocese and expects to be promoted to a parish soon, as it has been growing steadily the past few years. A Ladies Guild is very active and has done much to promote church work, a feature having been to erect two buildings on the church property, and is planning another, as those already built have proven income producing. A rectory is also planned. Mrs. Peter Mathieson is president, and the Guild has 42 members, meeting monthly. The church is a good one and most pleasantly located. Rev. Bayard H. Jones has been in charge of the mission since December, and is a young man of high attainments who has made many friends. He is a graduate of the University of California, where he was winner of the $600 Truxton Beale prize for an essay on Tolstoi's "What Shall We Do With Them?" He was also a student one year at Harvard, graduated from the Church Divinity School of San Francisco, was one year in the General Seminary in New York and went to Oxford on that Fellowship. Rev. Jones was in Germany at the outbreak of the war and spent last summer in France, Italy and Switzerland, coming to this charge from there. His active work is showing good results here and under his care the church work will no doubt continue to prosper.

The Presbyterian Society is one of the oldest in this section, having been organized in the early '50s, and has 25 members, holding regular services every Sunday morning. Its Sunday school enrolls 35, with Miss Edith [illegible] superintendent, and a Ladies [illegible] society, Mrs. G. W. Wright, president, is a flourishing organization doing much good work. The church building was erected many years ago but amply fills all needs, has a good sized auditorium, Sunday school room, parlors, kitchen and dining room. A commodious parsonage is also a part of the church property, as well as a cemetery. Rev. R. W. Rogers is the pastor in charge, having come here recently from Plymouth church, San Francisco. He has been in church work in the state for eight years, having held pastorates in Petaluma, Porterville and Oroville. Rev. Rogers holds a high place in the church organization and is an author of some note.

Fraternal societies are strong in Centerville, one of the most important being Alameda Lodge No. 167 A. F. and A. M., the only Masonic lodge in the township. It was organized in 1863 and has 110 members, F. B. Hartman, worshipful master, and A. T. Biddle secretary. The lodge owns a fine building valued at $21,000 which is well equipped in every way and its members take great pride in it and the accomplishments of the order. The first building erected by the lodge was from lumber brought to California around the Horn, on land donated by Mr. H. Overacker, and still stands as one of the landmarks of the town. Many of the old settlers of the county were charter members of the lodge, and many of its members have gained prominence in the affairs of the tsate. It celebrated its 50th anniversary on October 31, 1914, and the affair was a notable one.

Orient Chapter No. 177 Eastern Star is an important auxiliary in Masonic work, was organized in 1900 and has 135 members, Mrs. Etta M. Biddle being worthy matron and Mrs. Carrie L. Emerson, secretary. The chapter has enjoyed an especially good growth the past year and is very active in a social way, its annual party being one of the year's events.

Centerville Lodge No. 170 K. of P. was organized in 1890 and meets every Thursday evening in Hansen's Hall. It has 50 members, and officers are H. Kaiser, C. C., and J. D. Norris, K. of R. and S. This lodge lost its paraphernalia by fire last April and has since been newly equipped.

Washington Parlor No. 169 Native Sons of the Golden West is one of the active organizations of that popular order in the county, and meets every Tuesday evening in Hansen's Hall, present officers being J. E. Dowling, president, and M. Mathiesen, secretary. It has 49 members, and the celebration of its 25th anniversary, December 13, 1915, with a "Hard Times" party is one of the town's events still talked about. At that time there was present F. T. Hawes, its first president, J. D. Norris, an old officer formerly grand inner and outer sentinel, C. F. Cummings, past president, and many others who have been identified with the lodge since its organization.

Maple Camp No. 140 W. O. W. has 90 members and meets every Friday evening, J. F. Rose, C. C., and M. H. Lewis, clerk; Centerville Grove No. 123, Ancient Order of Druids, 35 members with M. C. Bettencourt, N A., and Geo. Joseph, secretary, and Centerville Assembly No. 191 U. A. of A., Peter Peterson, M. A., and Mrs. F. O. Bunting, secretary, are other prosperous orders.

Centerville Lodge No. 27 I. D. E. S. was organized in 1900 and has 110 members. M. V. Felles, president, and F. P. Silva, secretary. This order is one of the strong fraternal insurance orders of the state and was organized in this county, its first lodge being at Mission San Jose, and headquarters at San Leandro. It is 35 years old and has a reserve fund of over a half million dollars. The order has upwards of 11,000 members, is in a very prosperous condition, has many valuable features in its working plans. Mr. John G. Mattos, Jr., of Centerville, is a past supreme president of the order and has served on its board of directors for many years.

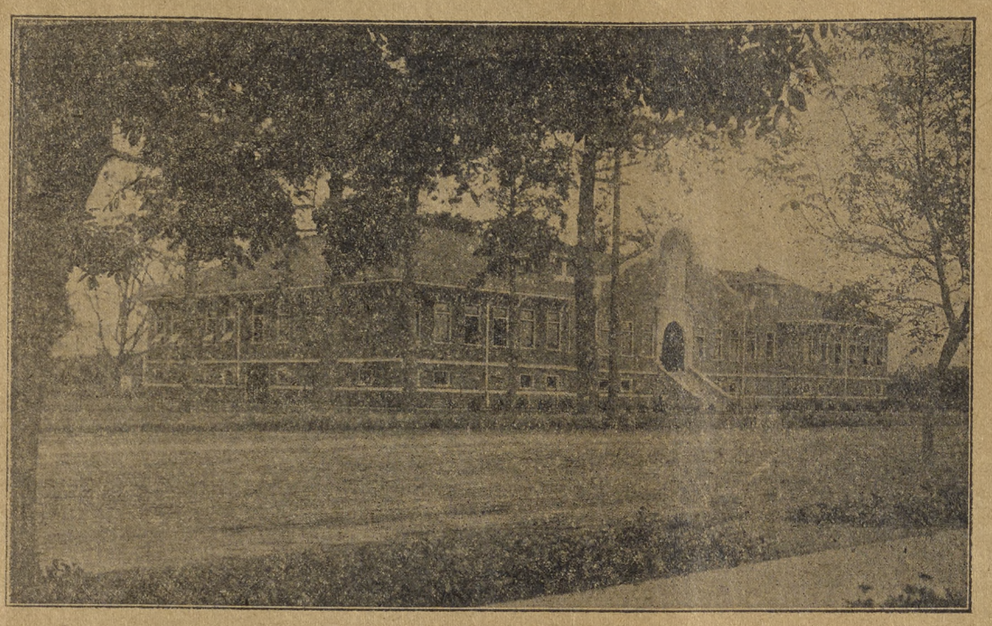
Lodges of the U. P. E. C. and S. P. R. S. I. are also maintained here and have good memberships.

The Centerville postoffice has recently been raised to the third class and designated as an international money order office. Mr. F. T. Hawes is postmaster, a position he has filled for many years to the entire satisfaction of its patrons and the department.

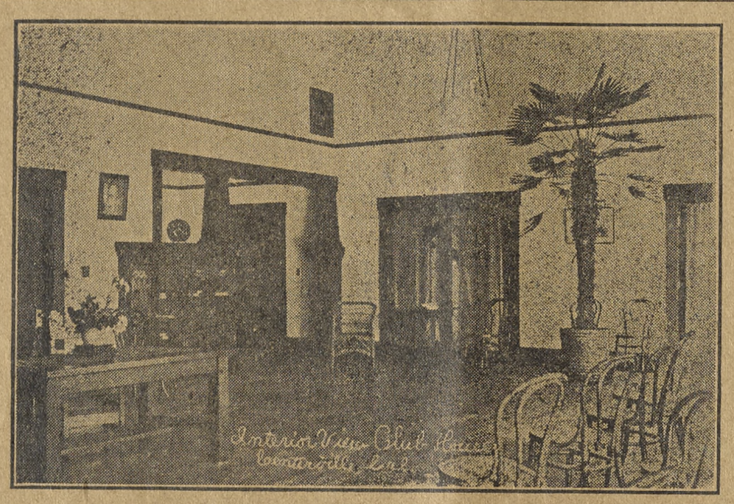
Centerville ranks at the head of the towns in the township in the number of fine homes to be found here, and the beautiful location, and fine social conditions make it a most desirable home town, a fact being appreciated by many who each year are added to its home owners.

The town has a strong financial institution in the Centerville Bank, of which John G. Mattos, Jr, is president, Joseph Dias, vice president, and F. T. Dusterberry, cashier. These gentlemen are among the best known in the community and have the full confidence of all its people.

Business institutions of all kinds are well represented here and stocks carried which are a credit to the town and afford every convenience as a trading point. Among the leading concerns are F. T. Hawes, general merchandise, O. N. Hirsch, department store, P. C. Hansen & Co., lumber, hay and grain, N. B. Randall, automobile garage, the Centerville Realty Co., the Gregory Hotel, J. S. Bell, confectionery and ice cream, and many others. A fine new brick block is nearing completion and makes a most attractive addition to the business section of the town. There is an opening here for many industries in the manufacturing line and inquiries addressed to the Chamber of Commerce for information relative to the town or country will receive most courteous attention.



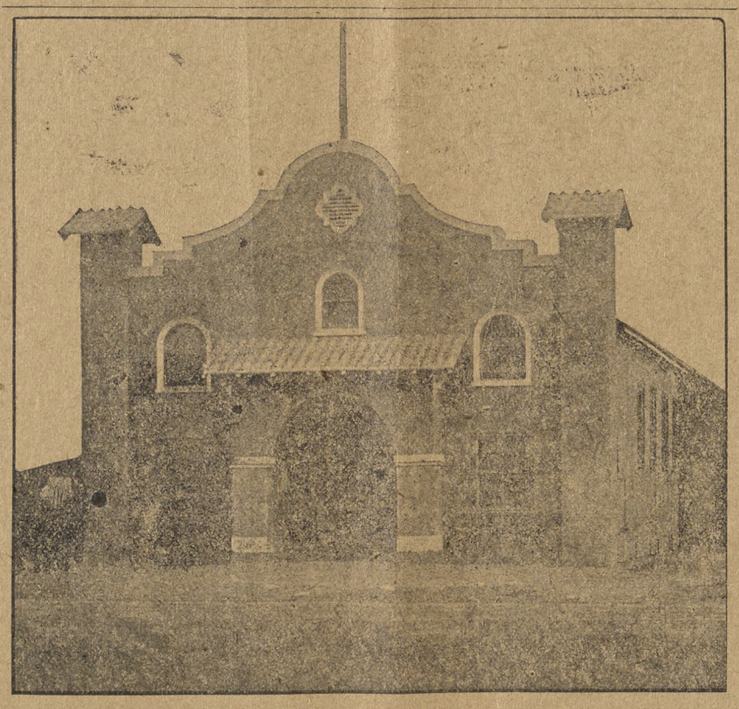
CENTERVILLE GRAMMAR SCHOOL



INTERIOR COUNTRY CLUB OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

REV. A. M . SOUSA

REV. BAYARD H. JONES



HOLY GHOST HALL, CENTERVILLE

REV. S. F. BARRON

PROF. G. W. WRIGHT
Principal Union High School

J. B. Fair, of Centerville, is one of the Washington township men who has done well here and has great faith in the country. He came here 25 years ago from Iowa and has devoted his time largely to fruit raising. He owns considerable town property and is active in public affairs.

Decoto, a Town With Many Advantages

Opportunities for Manufacturing, Homes or Farms

Live Business Men and Farmers Invite More

One of the best located towns of the township is Decoto, two and a half miles west of Niles, on the Southern Pacific and Western Pacific railroads and the highest townsite in Washington township. There is tributary to and in the town a population of 1200 and in no section is there to be found a greater variety of products or more fertile soil. The soil is of the lighter class underlaid at 16 to 18 feet by a gravel subsoil, and the chief products are early vegetables, coming into the market in April and May, hay and grain, and considerable fruit, there being no better apricot soil to be found any place. The town lying higher than the other valley actions finds its streets and approaching roads the best in the township and the large town plat offers plenty of room for growth either in the business or residence section, a growth encouraged by cheap prices for the lots. Land prices in the valley range from $500 to $800 per acre while in the hills to the north it is much cheaper. In these hills there is much cultivated land, given over mostly to barley and oats, cut both for hay and grain, and considerable stock range. Water is plenty and wells at a depth of from 50 to 150 feet furnish ample supply for irrigation when that is found desirable. Alfalfa is coming to be quite generally raised and that is stimulating the dairy industry, among the farmers, and there is to be built here this year one of the most extensive and up to date plants in this section.

The unusual good transportation facilities at Decoto are of great advantage to the town and surrounding country. The Southern Pacific railroad operates seven passenger trains daily to San Francisco and Oakland on which the exceptionally low commutation rate of $6.00 per month is made, as well as providing a freight service enabling farmers to get their products on the market promptly and in the best condition. It is one of the largest tomato shipping points in the state, 20,000 tons having gone out from this station in 1915 to the canneries of the California Fruit Canners Association. Sweet corn, peas and potatoes for the early market go out in carloads daily, and 75 carloads of apricots are shipped annually. Much hay, straw and barley is also shipped from this point and one farm last year shipped 25 cars of cauliflower, it going to Colorado for distribution from its markets. It is also a large shipping point for paving brick and pencil strips manufactured here. The company maintains good buildings here for the handling of its business and there is a very friendly feeling towards the company by the shippers, a feeling promoted by the popular agent, Mr. L. C. Page, who has been in charge for four years.

The Western Pacific also furnishes excellent facilities and its shipments are of the same products as the S. P., about ten cars of brick going out each week, 800 cars of vegetables annually, while there are large shipments into the town by this line of lumber and brick clay. Mr. L. E. Simmons has been the company's agent here eight years, has a large acquaintance and is popular. He is also secretary of the local Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Simmons is the inventor of an electric railway signal system upon which he has been granted three patents, and his device will be manufactured at San Diego.

The Decoto Chamber of Commerce of which H. C. Searles is president, and L. E. Simmons secretary, is an active organization doing much for the advancement of the town's interests. It meets the 2nd and 4th Monday nights of each month and has 20 members.

The Decoto grammar school is one of the good ones of the township. It enrolls 150 pupils and employs four teachers, Chris Runckel, principal, Miss Elma Ingalls, Miss Gertrude May and Miss Mary Jackson, all teachers of high standing. Mr. Runckel has been with the school 13 years, an evidence of the high satisfaction his services have given. He is also secretary of the Alameda Water District, in which he was active in the organization and is recognized as an authority on water conservation matters. Besides the regular courses the school has a special agricultural course, and its garden of flowers and vegetables is one of the best in the county. There is also a class in sewing and the school for years employed a special teacher in music. The school grounds are among the most beautiful to be found hereabouts and its building, a 2-story frame, well fills the needs of the district. Playground equipment is provided and there is a tennis course, baseball diamond and basketball grounds. The school board is composed of Henry May, clerk; H. C. Searles and J. J. Sandholdt, all gentlemen ever ready to do all possible to advance the welfare of the school, in which they have the active co-operation of the patrons.

Fraternal societies are represented by the I. D. E. S. and U. P. E. C. Both were organized in 1902. Counselho No. 55, I. D. E. S. has 40 members and meets the first Sunday of each month, Manuel Barnard, president, and M. H. Lewis, secretary. Counselho No. 61, U. P. E. C., meets the 3rd Saturday and has 75 members. T. I. Silva, president, and Joe R. Abrao, secretary. Both societies are in a flourishing condition, and their members are active in their interest.

The Catholic society maintains a mission here served by Rev. Leal, of Niles, with services every Sunday. An Altar Society among the ladies of the mission also does good work.

The Congregational Society has a church building here but is not now supplied by a regular pastor, but a small Sunday school is maintained and a Ladies Aid Society of which Mrs. H. May is president, is quite active.

Near Decoto is the large ranch of the Patterson Estate, of which H. H. and W. D. Patterson are in charge. This land was formerly owned by G. W. Patterson, who settled upon it in the early '50s and occupying it until his death in 1896. It consists of 3500 acres operated mostly through tenants and growing vegetables, hay, grain, tomatoes and sugar beets, the latter yielding 12 to 30 tons per acre. On these holdings there are also a number of dairies, especially on the lands in the neighborhood of Alvarado and Newark. There has in recent years been considerable attention given to alfalfa which has been found very profitable, and it is the intention to increase this acreage. The home place is one of the finest in the county, beautiful grounds, a large modern house, and barns, shops and other buildings for every needed use. A feature of the place also is several large eucalyptus groves.

Another large ranch is that of the May Estate, operated by Henry May, and leased to many tenants. It consists of 1400 acres, lying in the valley and hills, and the principal products grown are beans, peas, sweet corn, potatoes, and hay. Considerable stock is ranged in the hills, where there are many springs and two streams furnishing an abundance of water. Mr. May has been in the country since 1886 and is one of its best known citizens. He has ever been very active in the development of the country and there is none more ready to promote any public enterprise for its advancement. He serves as clerk of the school board, is active in Chamber of Commerce affairs and bears the very highest regard of all.

The farm of J. C. Whipple, west of town is another of the old established farms of the township. On it there is raised grain, beets, fruit and alfalfa, and a good sized dairy is kept. This, too, is a well improved place.

In Decoto Mr. J. J. Sandholdt owns three-fourths of an acre on which he raises chickens, keeping about 800 White Leghorn hens, which make him more than a living, and are a constant example of what can be done here in poultry raising.

Decoto offers excellent advantages in a manufacturing way through its superior railroad facilities, cheap land and nearness to the markets of the Pacific Coast. This advantage is already being appreciated. The Essex Lumber Company operates here a factory for the manufacture of pencil strips which employs many men and is one of the leading industries of the county. Its product is shipped to the pencil factories of the east where it is in constant demand.

The Victor Incubator Co, conducted by V. G. Higgins is another growing industry which promises to develop to a large concern and is constantly enlarging. The company manufactures incubators and brooders upon a principal different from any other and which is finding great favor among poultrymen. Their goods were awarded first prize at the recent Panama-Pacific Exposition and their trade is being built up in all parts of the country.

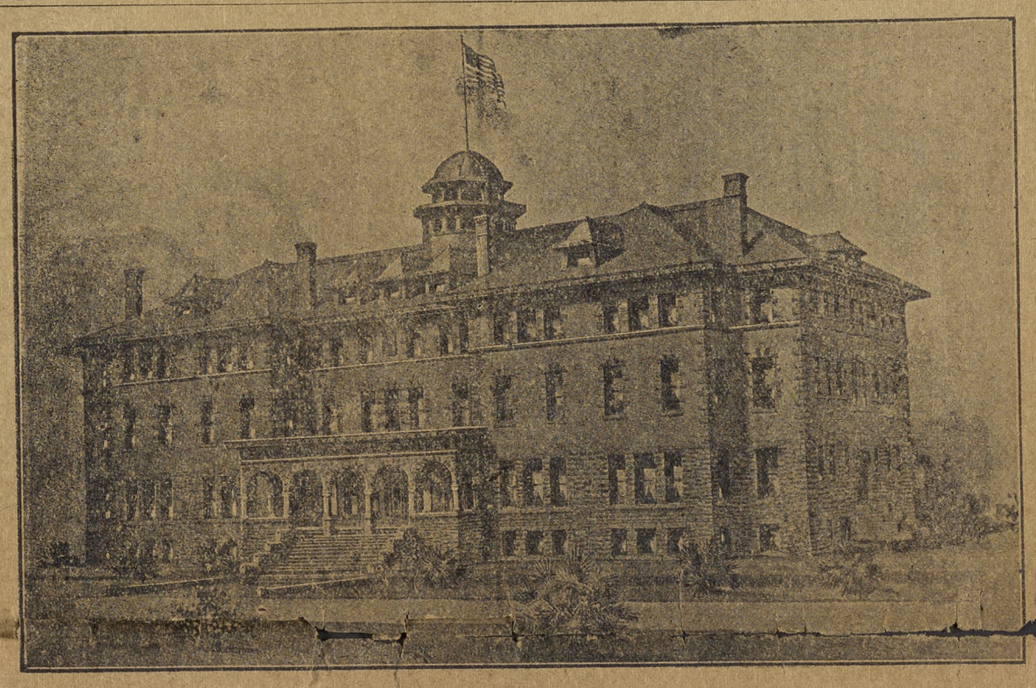
Near here is also the plant of the California Paving Brick Co., which puts out a very superior article of paving brick and is finding a wide market and growing demand. The Willett & Burr Construction Co. also maintains a large plant here for the repair of its machinery.

Near Decoto is located the Masonic Home maintained by the Masonic grand lodge of California. It is beautifully situated on the side hill north of town, with a magnificent view across the Santa Clara valley and San Francisco bay in the distance. The place has 187 acres devoted to agriculture and the necessary buildings for the care of its inmates which number about 175 aged Masons and Mason's widows. Large and substantial buildings meet every requirement, there is a fine Masonic Temple, cottages, hospital, and barns, dairy and poultry yards. The grounds are beautifully laid out and well cared for and the home is the pride of the Masons of California who here carry out one of the great principles of their order in the care of their dependents. Mr. F. B. Hartman, superintendent of the home, has been in charge for eight years and has proven just the man for the place, his careful attention to the comfort of his wards winning for him their great love and esteem. Mr. Hartman has long been prominent in the affairs of the order, among whose members he has a very high standing.

Decoto is also the headquarters of the Edward Salz Co., Inc., operating a large feed mill and handling hay, grain, feed, agricultural implements and land. This is one of the large concerns of the township with a branch at Irvington and San Francisco and furnishes a market for the grain and hay of a large section. Mr. Salz is one of the old settlers of the township, has large land interests, and is one of its best citizens.

Among the other business interests is that of J. L. Olson, postmaster and general merchandise with a large stock. Doyle & Fungate, groceries, M. J. Silva, shoe repairing, and others.

The Decoto Chamber of Commerce will be very pleased to receive inquiries from anyone interested in the country and to extend every courtesy and assistance in the way of information or otherwise.



MASONIC HOME AT DECOTO

COUNTRY HOME OF HORACE J. CRAFT

Of the advantages of Niles and its surrounding country as a country home place for the city business man there is no better example than the home of Mr .Horace J. Craft, on Morrison Avenue, within 15 minutes walk of the S. P. station. Mr Craft is an Oakland business man with high ideals for his home. He has been an extensive traveler over the world, has visited its most attractive spots, has a clear conception of the beautiful in nature, and located here after careful consideration of the many places tributary to his business, his choice being made because of the superiority of climate, rich and fertile soil, and the unequalled transportation facilities, the frequency of trains and 35 minutes to Broadway being immense advantages.

Mr. Craft bought his place of five acres here in the summer of 1914. It was at that time somewhat run down for lack of proper care but one would not now suspect that, for the place shows every evidence of the more careful attention, and of beauty that at once attracts praise from all. The house was remodeled throughout, con-

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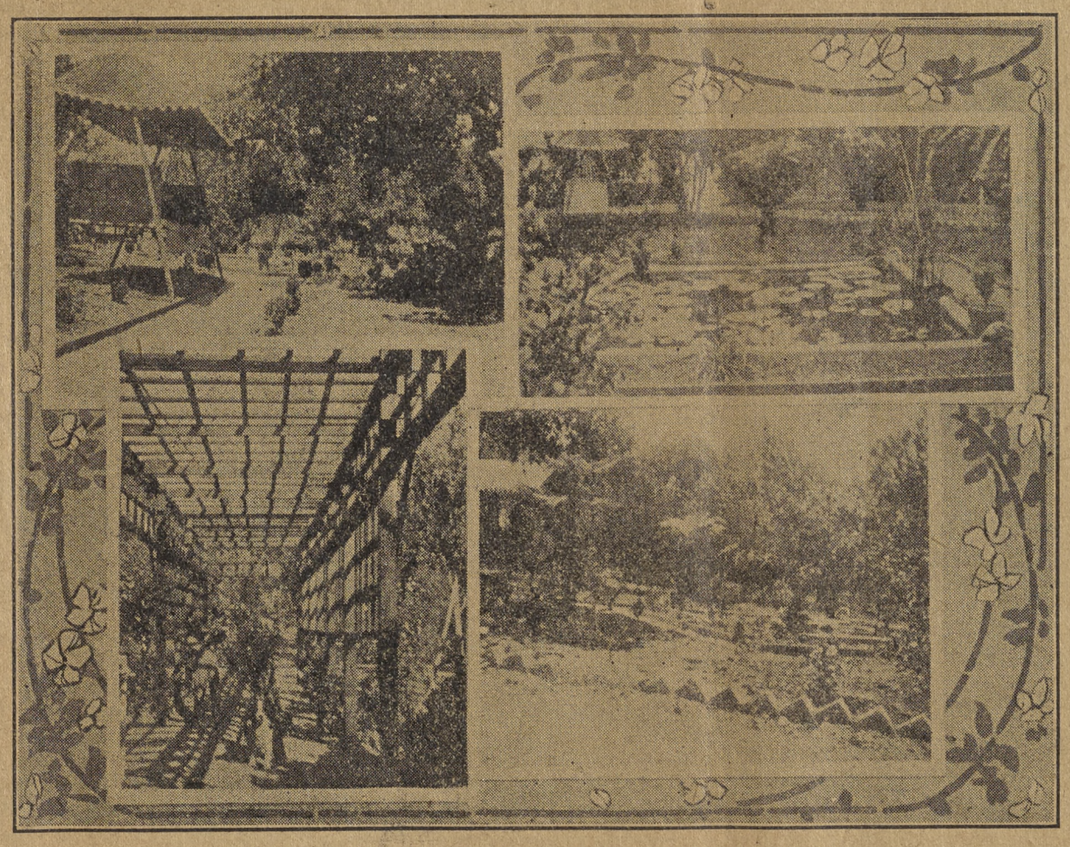


SCENES ON THE COUNTRY HOME OF HORACE J. CRAFT.

Alvarado, Famous for Salt and Sugar

Manufacturing Industries Thrive In This Live Town

Business Houses Help in its Prosperity

Alvarado, a town of 1100 people, in the western part of Washington township, not far from San Francisco Bay, lays claim to distinction as being the town of both sugar and salt, for here is located the plant of the Alameda Sugar Co., and also three salt refining companies, making those the leading manufacturing industries of the town. About the town there is a large section of country bordering on the bay which is particularly fertile, and much of it lying along the creek bottom is subject to annual overflow which deposits rich silt, giving to those lands the wonderful productive power which has made the valley of the Nile famous for centuries. The principal products of this section are sugar beets, alfalfa and potatoes, which have proved good rotating crops and yield abundantly. Beets are rich in sugar content, some yielding from 17 to 24 per cent, and producing sometimes as high as 30 tons per acre. The sugar factory here pays a higher price for beets than most factories throughout the country and the business has proven attractive to most farmers. Alfalfa does well under usual conditions, giving four or five cuttings per year, and for it there is always a good market. Vegetables are grown to a considerable extent, particularly tomatoes, potatoes, garlic and sweet corn. Much dairying is carried on in this part of the township for the country is particularly adapted to that industry.

The town is on the Oakland to San Jose line of the S. P. railroad and has frequent passenger and freight service, with a special beet train in the beet marketing season, there being upwards of 1100 cars handled each year. Sugar pulp is shipped extensively to other towns. There is a large amount of fuel oils used here and 400 to 500 cars are received each year. F. G. La Montague is the company's agent here and is an old employe who looks well after the interest of both the company and shippers.

The People's Water Company which supplies the cities of Oakland, Alameda and Berkeley, has a pumping plant here, obtaining its supply from the gravel beds underlying this section and it also supplies water for the town's use. Municipal improvements are well looked after and of a substantial character. Fire protection is afforded by hose cart and hydrants. The town has the advantage of good telephone service, and electric light and power, the latter from the Pacific Gas Light and Electric Company

The postoffice is of the 4t hclass, has four mails daily and is an international and domestic money order office. Albert Norris is postmaster, having taken the office in June, 1915, and under his adminitstarion many improvements have been made both in the manner of dispatch and handling the mails and in the office fixtures,—a new outfit having been installed. Mr. Norris is also librarian of the branch library which has 1700 volumes, is open every day, and liberally patronized. Mr. Norris was for ten years principal of the grammar school here, and is prominent in all movements for the town's upbuilding.

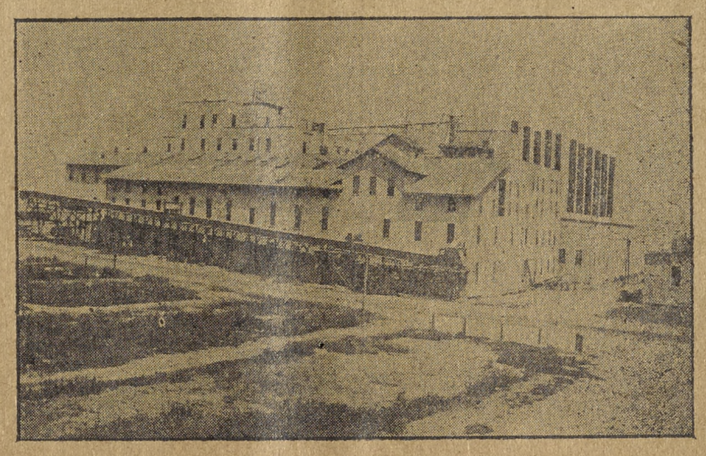
The Alvarado school employs three teachers and enrolls 135 pupils. It has a fine equipment for manual training, including individual benches and fine tools, and a domestic economy department teaching cooking. The building is a twostory frame in good condition, with sanitary toilets and a septic tank disposal system. It also has an independent water supply, with a 10,000 gallon tank. Fine playground equipment is provided and the grounds are very beautiful with many palms and shrubbery. The present corps of teachers are: L. E. McCarty, principal, Miss Celeste Bunker, and Miss Helen Lyle. The board is composed of Mrs. F. R. Robey, clerk, E. A. Richmond and J. M. Scribner, who with the cooperation of patrons are keeping the school up to a high standard.

The Presbyterian church here is supplied by Rev. R. W. Rogers of Centerville, has 28 members, and services every Sunday afternoon. Mr. H. Jung is superintendent of the Sunday school, and also of the Christian Endeavor, both of which do much for the advancement of the church work. A Ladies Aid society is also active, with Mrs. Beebe, president. The church is a new modern building with parlor and auditorium.

St. Ann's Catholic church holds mass every Sunday and is served by the priests of the Centerville church, where the congregation goes for many special services.

The Alvarado Chamber of Commerce, E. M. Tainton, president, and Albert Norris secretary, numbers its members among the business men of the town and is ever ready to promote any interest for the improvement of the town and it has done much, espeially in the promotion of good roads work.

As one of the largest industries of the township the Alameda Sugar Co. factory is of great importance, not only to Alvarado but to the whole Pacific coast. It has a capacity to manufacture the product of about 8,000 acres of beets and these are raised almost entirely in Washington township making an industry which brings much wealth to the community.



ALAMEDA SUGAR REFINERY

The refinery of the California Salt Company, where the waters of the bay are evaporated and the salt refined to all grades has a capacity of 150,000 tons of salt per year and is the largest on the Coast. Its market is found in all parts of the West and its product considered as good as any produced in the country. The Continental and Oliver Salt Co. are other concerns operating refineries here.

Hellwig & La Grave operate a large meat packing plant here which supplies their market at Niles and Hayward as well as doing a jobbing business among the other dealers in the township. Their plant is thoroughly modern in every way and affords a market for all the cattle and hogs raised hereabouts, which in fact is not sufficient to meet all the demand and requires the shipping in of more or less stock.

The business institutions of Alvarado are among the best in the township, carrying large stocks, and of a grade to attract much trade. Ralph & Scribner and F. C. Harvey have large general merchandise stores, E. L. Farley, lumber dealer, are among the leading ones. The Alvarado Bank is a strong institution with a branch at Irvington and amply fills the needs for a first class financial concern.

The advantages of Alvarado as a manufacturing point are readily recognized by anyone looking over the field and there is every reason to believe that these advantages will be more and more appreciated in the future, with the result that many more concerns will locate in the town, and to promote such a consumation the people of the town are ready at all times to do all in their power.

James Logan owns a 100-acre farm a mile and a half southeast of Alvarado, and has been a resident here 28 years. His place is very well improved and the principal products are potatoes, sweet corn, and sugar beets, of which there are 20 acres of the latter. He also raises fine Percheron horses. He has another place of 36 acres near Decoto given over to raising apricots and cherries, which he finds to pay well. Mr. Logan has a fine family of six boys and six girls, and these are being given good educations, the oldest girl now being a student in the San Jose Normal school.

Irvington, A Thriving Town

In the Heart of a Rich Fruit and Farming Country

Many Fine Homes and Good Business Institutions

Among the good towns of Washington Township, Irvington has long held a prominent place. It is admirably situated on the east side of the township, four miles from Niles and three from Centerville, and is surrounded by a community of good farmers, with well improved places, and has an energetic set of business men who are active in the advancement of their town, and have great faith in their country. The soil about Irvington varies from the lighter silt from the hills to the adobe which is particularly adapted to the raising of prunes and grapes. With this variety of soil its products are varied, as are those of other parts of the township, and raising of alfalfa, which has received considerable attention in recent years, has brought in many dairies, a business proving particularly successful.

The railroad facilities of Irvington are provided by the Southern Pacific railroad company with the same high class service which characterizes other parts of the township, twelve passenger trains being operated daily, with ample freight service, and its principal outgoing shipments are made up of fruit, vegetables and milk. Mr. Z. H. Freeman, its agent, has been here since 1914 and made himself a popular official with the patrons of the company.

The town's improvements are of a substantial nature and it has all the accommodations of good postal service, telephone exchange, electric light and power, and other civic advantages which go to make an agreeable home and business place. Much of the progress of the town has been brought about through the activities of its Chamber of Comm[illegible] of which T. H. Tierney is pres[illegible] and Dr. J. H. Durham secretary, and of which practically all its business men are members. The chamber has been particularly active in giving the town a good lighting system, in looking after the improvement of the streets and country roads, and in promotion of the public library, which is well housed and has a large list of books for public use.

The Irvington grammar school is fully up to those of the county and a matter of great pride to its people. It employs four teachers, handles the school work through the eight grades, and from it goes out a large class to the Union High school where they are making a creditable record. The need of a new building is becoming apparent and with that in view plans are being laid which will no doubt eventuate in such a structure in the near future. It has beautiful grounds which are conveniently located and has a full set of playground equipment. Considerable attention is given in the school to athletics, baseball and basketball teams being maintained, in which the students take a great interest. The school board, composed of T. Tierney, clerk, James Millard and Manuel Joseph is a progressive one having the full confidence of the people, and ready at all times to do anything necessary for the upbuilding of the school. Its present corps of teachers are, W. O. Davies, principal, Miss Frances Peters, 4th and 5th grades, Miss June Witherly, 2nd and 3d. and Miss Minnie Galimbo, 1st. Mr. Davies is serving his first year in the school, but is well known throughout the township, having for some years been at the head of the Mission San Jose school, and active in public affairs. He is a graduate of the normal schools at Stockton and San Jose, and also in law, and holds a high place among the educators of the state.

Church facilities of the town are of the best. The Christian church was organized over thirty years ago as a Church of the Disciples of Christ, or Christian church. For a number of years it was self-supporting with an active and growing membership, but in recent years, owing to the loss of many members by removals and death it has served the people more as a community church than the representative of any religious denomination, the members of the various religious bodies represented in the community having joined in all services, and give the little church their loyal and hearty support, with Christian Endeavor society, a live and growing Sunday school to foster the spiritual needs of the young people, the little community church is a real vital force for righteousness among the people of the community. It is an ideal example of what can be accomplished by the united efforts o nthe part of Christian people. Rev. H. V. White is the efficient and popular minister.

The Reorganized Church of the Latter Day Saints has been organized here many years and has 32 members, holding services the second Sunday of each month, served by a postor coming from San Francisco. Since losing its church building by fire some years ago it occupies temporary quarters in a convenient building. One of the events of Irvington each year is a reunion held here in August by the members of this denomination who come by the hundreds from all parts of Northern California and for ten days enjoy a most pleasant outing and enthusiastic religious gathering for which the best of speakers are provided.

There is a large number of Catholics in the community who are served by the church at Mission San Jose.

Fraternal societies are headed by Mission Peak Lodge No. 114 I. O. O. F., one of the oldest lodges in this section, it having been organized in the early '60s. It owns its building which is well furnished and makes a most comfortable lodge home and regular meetings are held every Wednesday night. Morris Brewer being noble grand and Sam Vandervoort secretary, and it has a membership of sixty, made up from the best men of the community. The lodge also owns and maintains a cemetery which is well cared for. An active lodge of Rebekahs is an important auxiliary and does much in a social way.

Societies of the U. P. E. C., I. D. E. S. and S. P. R. S. I. are also maintained here and have large memberships, affording excellent insurance protection and doing much for their members in a fraternal way.

There is located at Irvington the plant of Anderson's Military Academy, which for many years was one of the leading schools of the state, and from whose doors have gone out many of its leading and successful men. It was operated since 1900 by Prof. W. W. Anderson as a boy's military school until two years ago when the failing health of Mrs. Anderson, who had been an efficient co-worker, and Mr. Anderson's advanced age, led to their discontinuing the work. The school is beautifully located on 14 acres of ground with magnificent trees and parks, in an ideal location for such an institution and has a capacity to care for 35 students, which could easily be increased to 60. There is everything necessary for the conduct of this class and it will doubtless be reopened as such at no distant day. Prof. Anderson has been engaged in school work for 60 years and is also a clergyman of the Episcopal denomination.

Irvington is also the home of Mrs. Sarah Horner Decoto, an artist of considerable reputation whose work shows high talent and finds a place in many galleries. Mrs. Decoto is of one of the old families of this section, lived for many years in the Hawaiian Islands and was a student in a Paris art school when the present war began, at which time she was here on a visit, and owing to European conditions did not return to her studies. The Horner home bears many specimens of her work, which is of a high order.

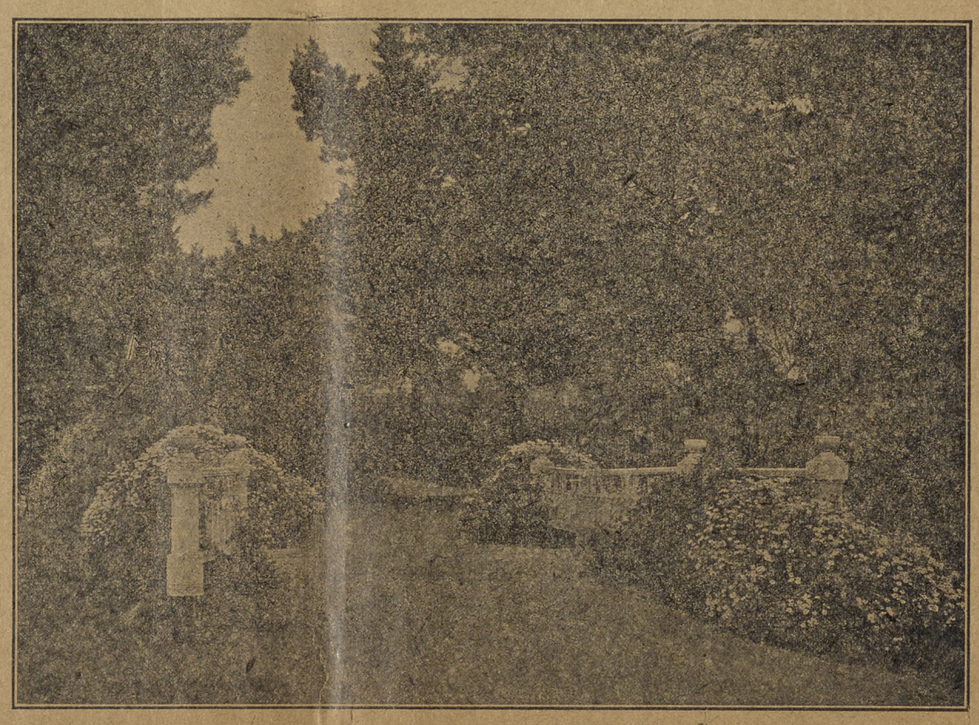
Dairying is the particularly growing industry about Irvington and there are now 2000 cows being milked in the country tributary for which this is the shipping point. As these plants are many of them of recent building they are modern and up to date, meeting all requirements for turning out a high quality product. One particularly worthy of mention is that of the Sam Aftergut Co. which was built a year ago and is a model institution in every way. It is located on the farm owned by M. L. Mowry two miles southwest of town and the buildings were all erected particularly for this business, and it is pronounced by inspectors one of the best plants in the state. Cleanliness is everywhere the marked feature of the place and its equipment is of the best. Electric power is used and a refrigerating plant furnishes a temperature to keep the milk in the best condition which reaches its market in Oakland and Berkeley at 45 to 50 degrees. The large barn is 100x150 feet, has a cement floor, and there is a large floored shed for protection of the stock in winter. A feature of the plant is the system for caring for the manure which is all taken in litter carriers to a cemented cistern where it is dissolved with water and from whic hit is pumped to the land where alfalfa is raised. The farm milks 300 cows and the company also operates a large ranch in Yuba county where the stock is raised, which is of mixed breeds.

Another extensive dairy is conducted by Mr. T. F. Byrne who has 160 acres and milks 90 cows. Mr. Byrne was one of the first to engage in the business, having been at it 12 years and his product is the highest scoring shipped to San Francisco, an average of over 4 per cent having been maintained for six months, and reports are at hand showing as high as 4.35. His plant is well equipped with every essential, and it is a record of 12 years that the man in charge has made two deliveries daily and never missed a train.

Mr. T. D. Witherly is one of the oldest settlers of the country, having been here 32 years, is an extensive orchardist and farmer, and his experiences are representative of the country and show its agricultural possibilities. An 11 acre prune orchard set out 25 years ago which he says pays 10 per cent interest on a valuation of $10,000, and his success has led him to embark more extensively in fruit growing in recent years and he now has 40 acres in trees, mostly prunes and apricots. He also owns considerable farming land in the hills. He does his own fruit drying, for which he is well equipped and is able to store his fruit for the time when the market is best. Mr. Witherly is an extensive owner of town property and has a beautiful residence in which he makes his home. He is also owner of the large home formerly belonging to the Threfall estate, which is one of the finest in the town and is now on the market for sale. Tihs property consists of 2.3 acres,, has a large 14 room house modern in every way, with toilets, bath two fire places, well finished, and has a fine location on the main drive to Oakland. It has a family orchard, necessary out buildings, is well cared for and will make an ideal home for anyone seeking such a location. Mr. Witherly has always been prominent in public affairs, is one of the country's best boosters, and a very highly respected citizen.

The strawberry farm of Driscoll Bros. near Irvington is the largest in the state and from it goes the finest berries found in the city markets.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)



ANDERSON ACADEMY, IRVINGTON

STORE OF O. N. HIRSCH, IRVINGTON

Old Missions Inspire Travelers

Ruins Tell Tales of Great Self Denial

Mute Evidences of Padres Efforts to Uplift Natives

By F. M. HARVEY

The traveler, especially if he be a student who looks beyond the mere desire for new sights and glimpses of the unusual, finds throughout the Southwest in the old missions of the days of the Spanish occupation much of interest from their novelty, and more from their historical association with the founding of an empire among the savages who first peopled the land. Throughout New Mexico, Arizona, and more numerously in California from San Diego to San Francisco Bay these old landmarks of a hundred years ago, too many of which are now but little more than ruins, offer to the tourist opportunity for the gratification of that desire for the new which is the ever impelling force that leads to travel, and at the same time as he learns of their history and the self-sacrifice and undying fidelity to a Faith which led to their foundation, finds a fund of information which will ever prove a pleasure, more keen through having visited the actual scenes where were laid the first foundations of the civilization of the magnificent country surrounding, and having been for a few hours a part of them, and felt the sanctity of such association. The inspiration in the lives of such men as Fr. Serra and the other Franciscan Fathers who worked with and succeeded him find its effects deep rooted in the California of today, as well as throughout the Church which his work helped to found so firmly in the Western Hemisphere.

One learns that these early Padres were men imbued with the true missionary spirit, and that there went with their work not only the carrying of the Gospel of the Savior to a benighted people, but with it the arts of civilization, the instilling of a higher instnct to the savage, the creation of a desire for better things,—the only inspiration which leads to progress and advancement. That there were discouragements and reverses, those hardships which confront the pioneer in every new country, seems only to have strengthened their faith and added to their zeal, and made more striking their accomplishments.

With transportation slow and laborious, and separated by great distances, which we of the present day find it difficult to appreciate, there came the necessity for the communities surrounding these missions to become self supporting, and we learn that in the course of a few years they had done so to such an extent that they were doing greatly for the support of the State, a prosperous condition which no doubt had much to do with their ultimate downfall when greed and power possessed their rulers. We learn that the arts of trade made rapid progress. Weaving, metal work, carpentry, the care of herds, and other industrial pursuits were taught the Indians, and in this we find a striking contrast with the methods of the pioneers of other sections of the new continent where the aborigine was driven from his lands, with the inevitable result of conflict and hatred. Not only was there prosperity through the growth of herds, arts of civilization which in a short half century gave these missions prosperity of hundreds of thousands of dollars, but there was due attention to the beautiful which made of them veritable oases in what had been a barren land, and much of that beauty may still be found in the well kept grounds the palms and ferns, and artistic ga[illegible] of many of them.

That the traveler appreciates the call of these old missions and that they will ever be an attraction is evidenced by the thousands who visit them annually and in whose minds there will ever be fond recollections of San Diego de Alcada, Santa Barbara, San Carlos Barromes, San Luis Obispo, San Jose de Guadalupe and others. That they have a present day value aside from their historical associations, as attractive points appealing to tourist travel is becoming more and more apparent each year, and this in itself should be an incentive to their preservation, were not the higher regard for their early accomplishments sufficient. In the work already done for the restoration of San Jose mission there is inspiration for its prosecution until it shall have reached a successful completion, and with that and the publicity necessary to bring it to the attention of the traveler, that old landmark will become one of the show places of California.

Country Home of Horace J. Craft

(Continued from Page 5.)

tains eight rooms and large sleeping porch, and is a model of convenience and comfort in every way. A concrete garage, water plant with electric pumping power, extensive poultry houses and other outbuildings are among the improvements.

Fruit is the largest product of the place. There are 250 almond trees in bearing and these have netted as high as $1,150 per year; 100 apricot trees are also a constant element of profit. Besides these there are oranges, lemons, cherries, English walnuts, figs, all doing well. A lemon tree hardly bearing for lack of care when Mr. Craft took the place, is now loaded to the breaking point, and from it has been sold $12 worth of lemons at ten cents per dozen. There is an abundance of small fruit, grapes, blackberries, currants, and others and all have proven most productive. A new arbor just erected will carry Himalaya berries and be a most attractive addition.

The poultry yards contain 200 Rhode Island Red chickens and from them upwards of twenty dollars worth of eggs are sold each month, as well as providing eggs and chickens for the family needs. A rabbitry runs 40 Belgian hares, and these, too, provide many meals. Vegetables in abundance for all needs are also raised.

In beautifying the grounds a great variety of plants and ornamental trees are used and so arranged as to bring the most artistic results. Over a hundred lilac bushes, white, purple and pink, give a most beautiful effect when in bloom, and their blossoms also bring considerable income. Palms ferns from Hawai, roses, well laid out lawns, drives and walks all make for a most beautiful and inviting home, while a lily pond with its exquisite blooms and many gold fish are a constant source of pleasure.

Mr. Craft has built a most beautiful country home, one of which he has every right to be proud and which is a credit to the community. His great satisfaction with the country has made him a most enthusiastic booster for it, he is vice president and one of the most active and effective members of the local Chamber of Commerce, and a citizen who bears the highest good will of the entire community.

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To The Press

Washington Union High School

A Modern School With High Educational Ideals

Students Stand Well Among the State's Institutions

Washington Union High School was organized in 1891 under the name, Union High School No. 2, which was changed to Washington Union High School in 1914, in order to conform to the law in regard to names of school districts

The law under which the district was organized was framed by residents of this community and passed by the legislature in 1891, the work for the formation of the district beginning as soon as the governor signed the bill. This law which, amended from time to time, is still in force, has provided for California a system of Union High Schools, now numbering about 125, superior to that of any other state.

There are twelve Elementary school districts in this High School district, made up of the towns of Alvarado, Centerville, Decoto, Irvington, Mission San Jose, Newark, Niles, and Warm Springs and four country districts. The school is governed by a board of five trustees elected at large by the voters of the high school district each grammar school house being a voting place. The funds for the support of the school at present are derived from three sources: (1) A state fund raised as other state funds and distributed to the schools, one third being divided equally among the high schools of the state, and twothirds being apportioned to the high schools on the basis of average daily attendance; (2) A county fund, raised by a tax levied on the county and apportioned to the schools according to (a) the number of teachers and (b) the average daily attendance; and (3) a district fund raised by tax in the district. So rich is the district in proportion to its population that, though ample funds have always been provided for maintaining the school, the tax rate has always been the lowest of any Union High School in the state. This year the district tax is four cents on the hundred dollars.

The school is located in Centerville, in the very center of the district. The school house was built in 1892 and was well adapted to the needs of the school when built, but owing to the growth of the school and the introduction of vocational subjects is now being rapidly outgrown. The grounds comprise two and a half acres owned by the district and four and a half acres adjoining on which the district has a twenty year lease from the Spring Valley Water Co. at an annual rental of one dollar. The grounds are beautifully ornamented with lawns, flowers and trees, the plan and arrangement being largely the work of the late Mr. Jarvis, who was the first secretary of the trustees.

The pupils come from all parts of the district, some on bicycles, some drive, some in busses running from the different towns, some in automobiles, and some walk. In number of pupils enrolled this year the grammar school districts stand in the following order:

Centerville, Niles, Irvington, Newark, Alvarado, Lincoln, Alviso and Mission San Jose, Mowry's Landing, and Decoto, and Warm Springs,

The trusttes of the district are Mr. F T. Hawes, Centerville, president; Mr. A. T. Biddle, Newark, secretary; Mr. Henry May, Decoto; Mr. Joseph Rogers, Mission San Jose, and Mr. J. C. Shinn, Niles.

The confidence that the people of the district have in the board and their satisfaction with their work is shown by the fact that Messrs. Rogers and Shinn have been members of the board nearly the whole time since the organization of the school, and the others have also been re-elected term after term. Mr. Biddle has been secretary of the board for the past eleven years.

It has always been the policy of the board to secure the best teachers possible and retain them as long as they are doing satisfactory work and are willing to stay. All of the teachers have had thorough college training, having taken not merely the regular bachelor's degree course but post graduate work as well. The faculty consists of Mr. G. W. Wright, principal; Mr. R. O. Moyer, vice principal; Miss Dahlia T. Spencer, Miss E. Marie Sandholdt, Mr. F. V. Weller, Mr. R. F. Havens and Miss Elizabeth M. Willis. Of these, Principal Wright has been in the school for 11 years, Miss Spencer for nine years and Mr. Moyer for eight. The school has always been fully accredited to the State University and many of its graduates have taken a very prominent part in the school and athletic life of the University as well as having attracted much attention for their scholastic attainments. As an example of the extent to which the graduates of the school seek further education, last year's class will serve well. There were sixteen members of the class. Of these six are in the University, six in Normal school, one has taken the U. S. civil service examination, one is in a Technical school and of the other two, one, a boy, is at work in San Francisco, and the other, a girl, is married. In general the graduates of the school, whether they have sought advanced education in the higher institutions of learning or have gone directly into the industrial life of the community have acquired high standing in the professional and business world.

The school has always taken an active part in athletics. In former years football was the only sport vigorously followed, the school having won the state championship in this sport in two different years. At present the school is a member of the Central Alameda Athletic League and holds the championship of the league in baseball and in track. Since the organization of the League six years ago the school has held the baseball and track championships continually and the football championsihp for two years.

The school has a quarter-mile dirt track, a football field and a baseball diamond. It also has an out door basketball court but on account of the rains which come regularly during the basketball season not much has been done with this sport.

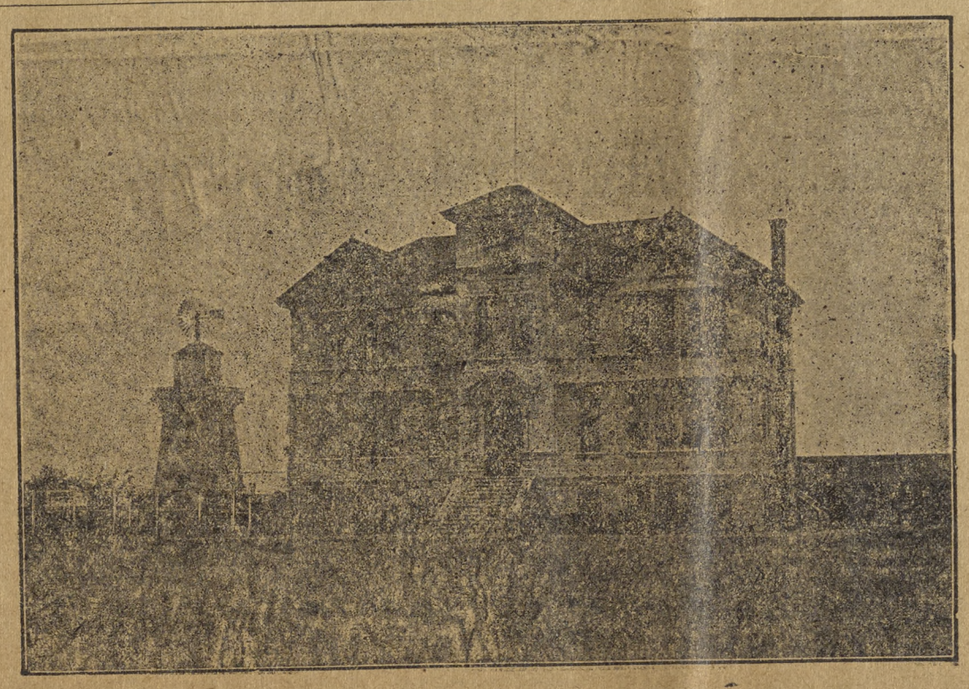
The troubles in connection with athletics which afflict many schools are not found at all in Washington Union High School. The teams from this school have always been known for their sportsman-like play and for their high ideals of sport.

The teachers have always taken an active interest in the various teams. Not only one or a few but all of the teachers assist in selecting the teams, in coaching and advising and in supporting the games. This not only makes pure sports but increases the friendly relation between teacher and pupil. This assists very much in carrying out the general poricy of the school.

The school has always kept well abreast of the times and has endeavored to meet the needs of all the children of high school age in the community. In addition to the regular old line high school work—Latin, French, German, English, Mathematics, History, Science and Drawing—it also offers courses in the newer subjects,—Agriculture, Manual Training, Commercial work, Printing and Home Economics. The school has a well selected library of about 2500 volumes. For years it has been the policy of the turstees to appropriate a generous sum for library purposes. The laboratories, though small, are well equipped. The Manual Training department is handicapped somewhat for lack of room but is well supplied with the best hand and power tools. The Home Economics department has an excellent supply of whatever is needed both for the cooking and sewing. The school has its own gas and water plants.

The aim of every public school of the usual kind is a two-fold one; the most obvious aim is to instill certain facts into the minds of the pupils; the other aim is to bring about a development of personality which will result in purposeful lives. These two objects, the "cramming in" of facts and the "drawing out" or character comprise the sum total of education.

This school, as well as every other school, is usually tested, praised or criticized by its ability to accomplish the first aim, the "cramming in" process. Students are admitted to higher institutions of learning almost altogether on this basis. Also, it has become quite the fashion or quite smart, according to the disposition of the individual, to make fun of the high school pupil's lack of grammar or arithmetic or the dictionary.



WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL

Washington Union High School has stood this test with credit. Some criticism may have been made of the mistakes and blunders of the pupils. This is inevitable in a land of humans. Moreover it indicates a certain kind of interest in the school as well as life in the community. Students from this school have been admitted freely to all higher institutions of learning. Never has the accrediting been questioned by the State University.

Moreover, the records of the students who have attended the universities and normal schools, will show that in the acquiring of facts the pupils from this school are as well trained as those from any other school.

Education, however, is more than acquiring facts. We must have the "drawing out" process, the development of personality, which will result in purposeful lives. Most of us have lived long enough in the world to know this is far more important than the acquiring of facts. We know that much more depends on what a man is than on what a man knows.

It has always been the policy of this school to place the emphasis on this phase of education. For this reason individual responsibility and opportunity for decision are given as freely as possible. The school is a democracy rather than a despotism.

In many schools, the life must necessarily be more artificial to maintain order. The small number of pupils as compared with other schools and country conditions enables this institution to reproduce more nearly the conditions of life outside the school. This freedom in the school produces a more natural relation between teacher and pupil, and makes the teacher's influence more real and impressive.

This school has always regarded training for citizenship as one of the most exacting duties laid on the school by the society that foots the bills. Much emphasis, therefore, is placed on this in the teaching of history, in the discussion of the public questions and current events.

One of the greatest elements that goes into the "drawing out" of the pupils' character is a realization that he is in the world for a purpose. This is most often noticed in the High school when the pupil becomes ambitious. Then he begins to speculate on his career. Much help is given at this stage by sympathetic guidance. In most cases the pupil is encouraged to go to advanced schools. How well this is done is shown by the large percentage of pupils who do go from this school to universities, normal schools, and technical schools.

Other schools are challenged to show as good a record in this respect. A kindly interest on the part of the teacher instills a feeling of self esteem on the part of the pupil that is invaluable in character building. Not only is ambition aroused but the best elements of manhood are encouraged.

In brief the policy of the school is to measure up to the standards of scholarship, and also to develop character. It does not wish to belittle knowledge of books but it believes that the developing of strong men and women is more important than producing educated paragons.

The Senate Restaurant.

This business formerly conducted by the late J. A. Easterday has recently been taken over by his widow, Mrs. Ida Easterday, who is conducting it in a first-class manner and attracting a high class of trade. The place is thoroughly equipped in every particular and serves regular meals and short orders at all hours, the table being at all times provided with the best the market affords and served in a way to give the highest satisfaction. There are also rooms for regular and transient trade and these are well furnished and cared for. Cleanliness is the watchward of the establishment, quick service a feature, and a specialty is made of catering to the wants of the auto and other traveling trade. Mrs. Easterday is very popular with the people of Niles, where she has been a resident very many years, is prominent in the work of the Native Daughters, of which society she was a charter member, and her many friends hope for her success in the business she so efficiently conducts.

ALVARADO SCHOOL GARDENS

Country Club of Washington Township

A Woman's Club of High Aims And Accomplishments

With a Large Membership and Beautiful Club House

The Country Club of Washington Township the only Township Club among the thousands of recorded Federated Clubs of the United States, had its inception in the minds of a dozen representative women of the Valley almost twenty years ago, and on December 10, 1896, a preliminary meeting was held at the nome of Mrs. C. H. Allen, Centerville. A permanent organization was affected in January, 1897, with Mrs. C. H. Allen as president, Mrs. J. E. Thane, vice president Mrs. C. C. Crane, secretary and treasurer, and Mrs. E. P. Mayhew, Mrs. Peter Crosby and Mrs. T. C. Huxley composed the executive committee, and twenty five ladies from the towns of Centerville, Decoto, Irvington, Newark, Niles, Mission San Jose, and Warm Springs, became charter members.

The purpose of the Club was "for mental improvement and ethical development," rather a high-sounding phrase, but as the science of ethics is "The science of human duty, right conduct, and right living," it is not so bad. And the life and work of the Club has proved to be of such splendid value in the moral, mental and social life of the Valley that the one hundred and twenty members today feel bound together by bonds of friendship that can only be formed by many years of close association, and these pleasant friendly associations are things that will live and grow in the members and their children, and children's children, for there are now a number of daughters, mothers and grandmothers who are members.

It is astonishing what a vast amount of study and research and discussion has been done in the Club upon a vast variety of topics, Classic Myths, Epic Poetry, Civil Government, Anthropology, Travel, Art, Music, Literature, History, American History, California History, Biography, Philanthropy, Drama, Civics, Forestry, Social Service, Household Economics and a continued study and discussion of the topics of the day. Music has played an important part in the Club life, and the many valuable articles written and compiled by the members upon all topics have given delight and valuable information to Club members.

The records show the receipt early in 1898 of a letter from the Oakland Board of Trade asking the Club to affiliate or become an auxiliary board. As no benefit whatever seemed possible to the Club the matter was laid upon the table.

No special civic work has ever been undertaken, the main thing being to demand the very highest standard of morals, to keep a keen eye upon the schools, the teachers, the young people, to keep uppermost the idea of the highest possible standard of "moral, mental and social life."

Some meetings stand out as gala days, the first an "annual luncheon," held at the splendid old home of Mrs. Howard Overacker in 1898, when she was president, a custom which has been continued and is the one Club annual gala day. In June, 1899, another day, a magazine, "The Washingtonian," was read, which was written, edited, and beautifully illustrated by the Club members. It was wonderfully good and has been preserved in the Club archives. In May, 1903, a "History of Washington Township" was compiled by the Club to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the settlement of the Township by Americans. It is considered a valuable and authentic addition to local California history, for it took nearly a year to secure and sift and to prove the various materials gathered from varied sources, state and county records, newspapers, and more especially from the thinning ranks of the Pioneers. A wonderfully interesting "Golden Jubilee" meeting was held in the Centerville Town Hall, at which the papers compiled were read. The hall was beautifully decorated with mustard, wild oats and poppies, tables were spread with quantities of rare, interesting and valuable relics, and the hall was crowded with Club members and their husbands, many guests, and an honored few Pioneers. The book was published early in 1904, with various illustrations from early photographs and prints and a frontispiece of Mission San Jose, from an old daguerotype taken in 1850.

In 1904 the Club, yet youthful, most ambitiously entertained the District Federation, some 70 delegates and guests from the five counties forming the district being present, besides the 78 Club members. Much business of importance was undertaken, a very fine program of music and speeches was given, and a sumptuous luncheon, yet talked of in local annals, was served to those present. And yet one other gala day. In 1912 the United States Federation or Women's Clubs met in San Francisco and the Country Club entertained 250 of the visiting delegates, from all parts of the United tSates, at a luncheon and reception given in the beautiful grounds at Mission San Jose belonging to the late Henry Lachman, the last of special days until the laying of the corner stone of the commodious Country Club House in June, 1914, when friend met friend with firm handclasp and ready smile, and keen good wishes for long years to come.

For years the feeling had grown that the best place to accomplish the best work was in a Club House home, so for years a fund had been slowly gathering, many and grave difficulties were overcome, husbands, fathers, brothers, friends, assisted, every individual member gave of her best, until a comfortable sum was secured, a lot was purchased on School Street, Centerville, and a most convenient, commodious Club House was built. It is essentially home-like in feeling, is roomy and sunny, with wide spreading doors opening for hospitality, with dining room and kitchen to cater to that hospitality, with necessary committee rooms, wide porches, and a kindly outlook upon old Mission Peak, the dominating point in all the township landscape. The cost of the Club House is only about $3000, no more than the cost of a moderate home. It is furnished so well, yet is so modest and in such good taste, with its quiet tones, its few good pictures, its piano and its welcoming fireplace, that the feeling of "hominess" impresses one immediately.

The Club has become a force for the support of so many good measures and laws and projects supported and gained by women in the state in the last fifteen years that members from the Country Club have been selected to serve on the various State and District boards continuously for that length of time. The Club has supported probation laws, travelers' aid, laws for women members on boards in insane asylums, laws for women to be present when women or children are concerned in courts, for women wardens for women in jails, and many another good law for the help of women and children. It has aided in support of a Club House for young women students in the State University, and has investigated and given information of value on many local interests. The Club has given so many interesting days besides these gala days, its regular meetings are always so good, that members carry home something worth while and membership is coveted and desirable.

The solid work of the Club continues, younger members with bright, new, worth-while thoughts and ideas and energies are taking up the work with interest new plans for bettering conditions, for helping the community, are forming, and most decidedly the "mental improvement and ethical development" of the community is the better because of the existence of the Country Club of Washington Township.

The Country Club holds its regular meetings the first Tuesday of each month, and its present officers are: Mrs. W. B. Kirk, president; Mrs. Philip Moore, vice president; Mrs. C. E. Martinstein, secretary; Mrs. B. Witherly, financial secretary, and Mrs. A. T. Biddle, treasurer.

Alameda County, Pride of California

(Continued from Page 1.)

make the city noted as the finest example of that type of home building of all the bay cities. Emeryville, Albany, San Leandro and Hayward are bay city suburbs where there is much manufacturing and all are prosperous and growing while the city of Piedmont is a distinctly home city, said to possess the most wealth per capita of any city in the state, many millionaires having built their homes there.

Alameda County probably contains the greatest diversity of topography and products of any county in the West. Its western side, with a shore line of forty-seven miles on San Francisco Bay, is a wonderfully fertile plain, with cities, towns, streams, farms and orchards, and contains less than one third the area of the county. It is in this section that Washington Township is situated and of which more is written in another place in this issue. Back of this plain are bold ranges of hills on which roam thousands of cattle which fatten on the rich grasses, and where many springs furnish an unfailing supply of water. In these hills are thousands of deer, and it is one of the places where one may leave his home in a large city and in a two hours ride find this big game. These hills occupy more than one third the area of the county. One large valley with many tributary valleys where are rich farms with their bearing orchards, great vineyards and fine stock occupies less than one third the area of the county. In these valleys are the thriving cities of Pleasanton and Livermore, famous for their wonderful climate and well kept and productive farm lands. At Pleasanton is the famous driving park where many of the world's fastest horses have been developed, and here is located the Alameda County Fair grounds where an annual fair is held which brings together many exhibits of the products of the county. This fair is held immediately following the state fair at Sacramento and draws many of the attractions of that exhibition. Between Pleasanton and Sunol is found the magnificient country home of Phoebe A. Hearst, one of the finest in the country, and its location there was selected as the most desirable in the state.

The agricultural possibilities of Alameda County are unsurpassed in the world. Two necessary conditions make this statement possible, a very rich soil and most favorable climate. Of the latter too much cannot be said, for with a natural rainfall sufficient to mature crops without irrigation, more than 260 fair days in the year, and with no severe cold, much of the county not even subject to frosts, vegetation continues the year round and the winter months are growing time for many of the vegetables which find their way to the very earliest market, bringing to the grower the highest prices, while large tracts are devoted to the growing of tomatoes, cucumbers and other vegetables which find their market at the canneries. Asparagus, potatoes, peas, beans, cucumbers, tomatoes, garlic, celery and rhubarb are some of the crops which bring their growers thousands of dollars each year. In the valleys hay is an important product, not the timothy and clover of the East, but wheat, oats, and barley, cut with the grain in the dough, and this is in fact the kind of hay used throughout the county, and commanding the best price in the market. Alfalfa is gaining a foothold in many sections where the dairy interest is prominent, and where there is the opportunity for irrigation, four and five cuttings are had, and the crop proves very profitable. The value of this crop may be judged by the fact that dairymen readily pay $20 per acre per year rental for alfalfa land. Grain growing receives attention in various parts of the county the crops being in the order of their importance, barley, wheat and oats. The use of these crops for hay gives the farmer the opportunity to harvest for either as his crop shows to the best advantages, and thus eliminates the possibility of a crop failure. Corn grows to maturity, but not with the abundance of the hotter corn countries, though as a fodder crop and for silage it has much value. Sugar beets do excellently and the sugar factory at Alvarado uses the product of about 8000 acres for which is paid the highest price to be found in any beet raising section. The extensive range in the hills of the eastern part of the county make possible a large live stock industry, 60,000 head of cattle being ranged there. The sheep industry has fallen off in recent years but there are still 12,000 to 15,000 grazed in the hills. Hogs are found on almost every small ranch and prove quite profitable.

As a fruit growing section the county has long occupied a front rank, and it i sin this industry that its lands have achieved their highest value. Peaches, apricots, cherries, almonds and English walnuts are grown in large quantities, while strawberries, which bear almost the year round, currants, blackberries, loganberries, raspberries and other small fruits yield abundantly and are raised extensively. Thousands of acres are devoted to vineyards where the finest grapes are grown and numerous wineries afford a market for their produce. Poultry raising is another industry receiving considerable attention and offering many opportunities.

Washington Township

(Continued from Page 3.)

or some expert on a particular phase of farm operations. In Washington Township there are centers at Niles, Decoto, Mission San Jose, Irvington, Centerville, Newark and Alvarado. In addition to the center meetings, the farm adviser will gladly visit the farm of any individual farmer, give him any advice he is able to in regard to his particular problems, or secure for him the help of an expert along that particular line.

C. W. Rubel, farm adviser in this county, while raised on a farm in the East and a graduate of the Iowa College of Agriculture, has had ten years practical experience in California, and is well fitted for this work. You will find him a pleasing fellow to know and anxious to do anything in his power to promote the agricultural interests of Alameda County.

The following men in this township are directors in the county organization and are always glad to talk farm bureau: J. C. Shinn and C. B. Overacker, Niles; Henry May, Decoto; J. Overacker, Mission San Jose; Wm. Trenouth, Irvington; E. H. Stevenson, Centerville; W. C. Graham, Newark; F. C. Harvey, Alvarado. Get together behind this movement and boost. The farm adviser is in no sense a police officer, and farmers don't have to follow his advice if they don't care to. All are working together for the common good and any farmer is entitled to any benefit he may be able to derive.

Markets and Transportation

The advantages of fertile soil and favorable climate are abundantly supplemented by good markets and excellent transportation facilities. Traversing the Township are the lines of the Southern Pacific railroad with its numerous stations by which no farm is more than two and a half miles from a shipping point and at its doors lie the cities of San Francisco, Oakland, Alameda, and Berkeley, and their environs, with a population of a million, their shipping to all parts of the world. canneries and packing plants, all providing a ready market for every product of the Township.

Electric power for farm use is furnished by the Pacific Gas and Electric Co., with wires extending to all parts and giving the advantage of cheap power for pumping or other use as well as the convenience of electric lighting. Telephone service reaches all parts by the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co.'s lines, with their long distance connections.

The educational advantages of the township are unsurpassed, with the Union High School, mentioned elsewhere, grammar schools in each of the towns, and within but a short distance of the great University of California, with its numerous courses in the professions and agriculture.

A feature not found in many communities is the county library system by which every town has a branch of the library with many books regularly on its shelves and at its command the thousands of volumes of the state and county libraries, at Sacramento and Oakland for circulating use. By this system there are fiction and reference books at hand while works on any special subject can be readily obtained.

Good Roads

No feature of the development of Washington Township has played a more important part in making it the desirable farm and residence community that it has become than that of its good roads. The good roads movement in the township began six or seven years ago, and by constant work and attention has developed a system of roads unexcelled any place in the country, until now all parts of the township are accessible at all seasons for automobile or pleasure vehicles, while the farmer may haul maximum loads with expenditure of the minimum horsepower. The State Highway projected from Oakland to San Jose passes through the north and east sides of the Township, Decoto, Niles, Mission San Jose, and Warm Springs being on the route. This Highway is constructed under the specifications of the State Highway Commission, has a good foundation of four and a half inches of concrete and a top dressing of bitumass. At no place is there a greater than five percent grade, and it has proven a great attraction to the tourist as well as a convenience to local people desiring quick transportation. The road is completed to Niles and Mission San Jose, and will be finished to Santa Clara county line this year. The Township roads cover about 350 miles, and are built largely of gravel, this road building material being found in various parts of the township. Building conditions vary through different soils found, but there is uniformly good drainage and a high efficiency in the work which brings the best results. Mr. Manuel Brown has been road overseer for the Township for three years, and for many years previously had been road master in the district of his home at Warm Springs. He is an enthusiast on the matter of good roads, and the people have every reason to feel highly satisfied with the results obtained. Construction labor is found among the people of the Township, and it has been Mr. Brown's constant effort to so distribute the funds allotted to his district as to give every part due attention. For the future it is planned to macadamize much of the roads, and eventually to make throughout the Township a network of permanent roads of that construction. All roads are sprinkled throughout the summer, twenty five carts being used for that purpose, and the work done at night. For it $25,000 to $30,000 is spent annually. All new bridges and very large culverts being installed are of concrete, while drainage situations of smaller magnitude are effectively taken care of by the use of Armco American Ingot Iron Corrugated Culverts, this material being chosen on account of its high purity and ability to resist corrosion and support heavy loads. These culverts are a home industry product, manufactured in Alameda County by the California Corrugated Culvert Company, West Berkeley.

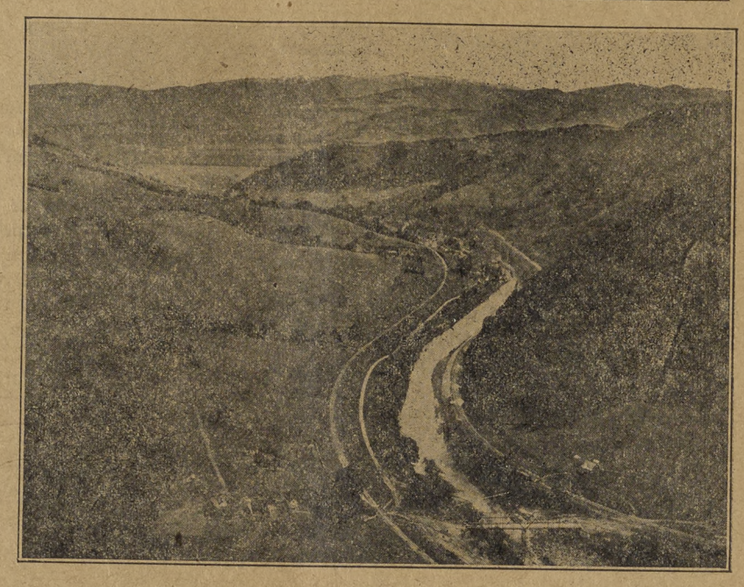
Land Prices.

Land prices in the Township vary much with improvements and location and range from $150 to $1000 per acre. The lower priced land is that of the hills, while the orchards and highly developed tracts of the valley command the higher price. There is comparatively little land for sale, the people generally being contented and with little desire to change. This home advantage enters into land values fully as much as production or commercial interest.

The people of the Township are of a high class, many families having been residents from its first settlement, and are of the class who make good neighbors and first class citizens. There are many Portuguese who early settled in the valley, are industrious and thrifty and have done much for the development of the community and their full share to make it the highly developed and prosperous country it has become. There is a considerable class who have been attracted by the home advantages and have built here beautiful homes with that permanence which goes with a satisfied people.

All appreciate that they are living in a veritable land of plenty, that there are many opportunities for all, and invite the people of other sections to come and share their prosperity. The Chambers of Commerce of any of the towns of the Township will welcome inquiries and take pleasure in giving any desired information regarding the country or its opportunities to interested parties.

SCENE NEAR NILES



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF NILES CANYON

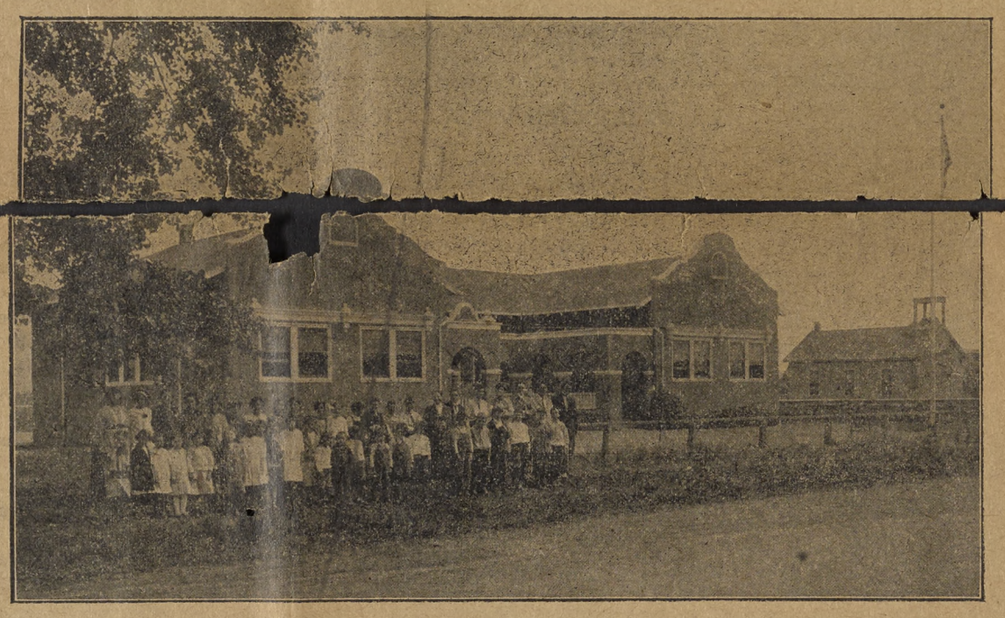
Alameda County has an assessed valuation of over $250,000,000 and no bonded debt. Its tax rate is as low as that of any county of the state and the vast amount of public work done, its excellently kept roads, fine public schools, and many substantial and creditable buildings are an evidence that the money paid in taxes is well spent. Its affairs are managed by a board of supervisors of whom the members are D. J. Murphy, chairman, F. W. Foss, Charles W. Heyer, J. M. Kelley and J. F. Mullins. These gentlemen are among the most representative citizens of the county, men of high business ability, and to their foresightedness and fidelity is due much of the great showing made by the county. A publicity department is maintained for the purpose of keeping before the world the advantages of the county and the opportunities it offers. The homeseeker, invester or business man seeking a location will find this department ever ready to extend any information or assistance, and any one interested will find it to his advantage to address this board or the publicity department for information in any of the lines in which he may be interested.

Attracts Picnickers.

The beauties of nature about Niles attract many during the summer months and every Sunday finds from one hundred to five hundred automobile parties picnicking in Niles canyon or enjoying the pleasures of Fernbrook Park or other resorts. An additional amusement is furnished by one of the best amateur baseball teams of the state the Essanay Indians, who have a good park where frequent games are played as well as many trips to other cities where the name of Niles is kept on the map.

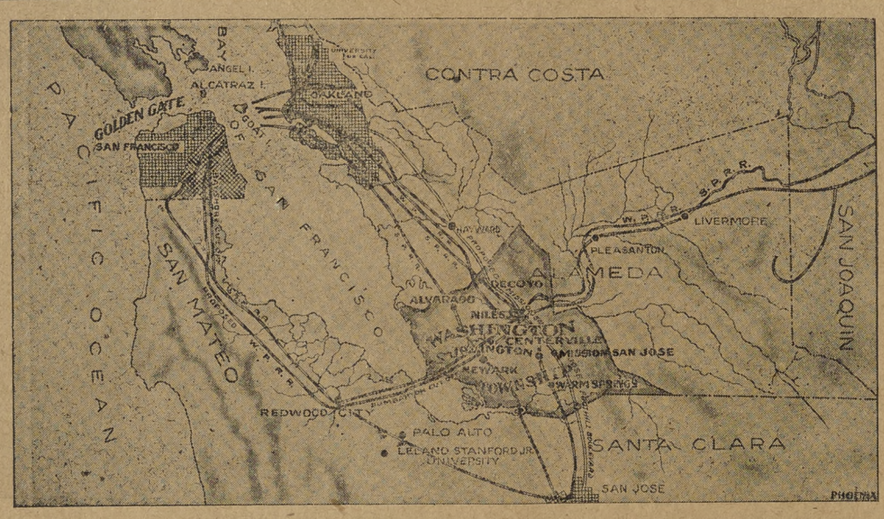
Any farmer may be a member of the organization upon payment of $1 per year dues. However, it is not necessary to be a member to secure the services of the farm adviser. His services are at the disposal of any farmer in the county. The organization is necessary, however, to maintain the work, as the government requires that at least twenty per cent of the farmers in a county are anxious enough to have a farm adviser to pay yearly dues before a man will be kept in the county. The money obtained from the dues is used by the organization in any way it sees fit, as the farm adviser's salary and expenses are maintained entirely from other sources.

The farm bureau provides an excellent organization through which farmers may work for the betterment of their interests along any line. Its possibilities are big. Agriculture is the biggest industry in this country and is now recognized as the most important industry and farmers should stand together for the recognition of their work and a just return for their products.



ALVISO SCHOOL

MANUEL F. BROWN, ROAD OVERSEER.



EAST BAY SECTION

PEAS PROVE PROFITABLE

Our hills produce the earliest peas in the country and it is not unusual for those first in the market to get $15 to $20 per sack for their first sales.